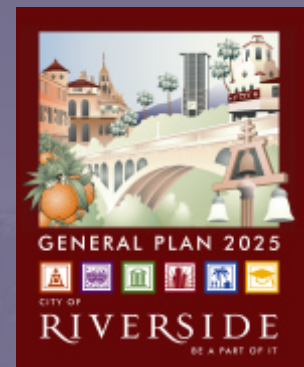


CITIZEN'S CONGRESS SUMMARY

RIVERSIDE GENERAL PLAN PROGRAM

OCTOBER 2003



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

RIVERSIDE GENERAL PLAN PROGRAM

DATE OF EVENT: SEPTEMBER 13, 2003

On September 13, 2003, more than 360 Riverside residents attended a Citizens' Congress held in the California Baptist University gymnasium. The Congress was designed to maximize citizen comment, participation, and ownership in development of the City's General Plan. Participants took the opportunity to comment on five major themes identified in the 2002 *Visioning Riverside* report:

- How We Live
- How We Work
- How We Play
- How We Get Around
- How We Learn



At the Congress, each theme had several interactive stations at which participants answered one or more focused questions and shared their general comments about how Riverside can move toward implementing community goals. This document summarizes the comments received at each of the stations.



The Crossroads station in the middle of the gym gave participants the opportunity to further comment further on each theme beyond the specific questions asked at the focused stations. In this summary, comments from the Crossroads follow responses to each station's particular questions.

HOW WE LIVE

This station had two interactive activities: a neighborhood assessment of assets/opportunities and a visual preference survey.

A. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSESSMENT

Maps were provided for each of Riverside's 26 neighborhoods, and participants responded to two questions:

1. What are the assets of your neighborhood?
2. What features are missing from your neighborhood?

B. VISUAL PREFERENCE SURVEY

At this station, participants were shown a series of pictures illustrating different planning concepts being considered as part of the update of the City's design guidelines.

A. Neighborhood Assessment

NEIGHBORHOOD: GRAND

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Trees – a good feature

Question 2: What is missing?

- Clean up unsightly homes
- A public golf course
- More police checking for theft and home invasion
- Lower the speed limit and check for speeders more often

NEIGHBORHOOD: EASTSIDE

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- No comments were provided

Question 2: What is missing?

- We should make sure that all of the streets have sidewalks
- Fix the streets from being so narrow – mainly Iris Street
- Fix my driveway because it's too narrow and it's pretty much rubble now – Iris Street
- Should have some bus service from Cridge to University Avenue on Victoria. We should be able to transfer at various locations to reach our destination within the City.
- More police (2 comments)
- Safe parks (2)
- Better housing (2)
- New apartments
- Area could use job opportunities

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Coordinate with UCR expansion plans down University Avenue
- People have a problem with police response time/delays. Suggest more patrols for visibility and/or priority response time.
- Home for the homeless
- Need a town center
- Corner grocery stores

NEIGHBORHOOD: LA SIERRA

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Community trail, park, and water

Question 2: What is missing?

- La Sierra County Center needs an upgrade. Don't like Ralph's and grocery shopping options.
- Nice restaurants, nice convenient shops, and movie theater nearby. Need something like University Village at UCR
- Would like to see live theater near Park Sierra (restaurants)
- Would like a general hospital closer than the one in Moreno Valley
- Stop street racing on Mobley Avenue between Mull and Cook, and racing on Cook and Jones
- Slow down speed on streets
- Would like speed bumps
- Lightbulb repair on street post
- Convenient walking access from Metrolink Station. Freeway access on Park Sierra Avenue.
- Alternative entertainment area closer to La Sierra and convenient access via Metrolink

NEIGHBORHOOD: LA SIERRA SOUTH

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Victoria Area – Prop “R” and Measure “C”
- We're still somewhat rural and want to keep it that way! Please.
- Live in Greenbelt, protected by Prop R Measure
- Don't build apartments here

Question 2: What is missing?

- Need grade separation on Magnolia Avenue entering Home Gardens
 - Traffic – adequate roads/infrastructure – reasonable growth – infrastructure can't keep up with it
 - Two lane roads in both directions to support all the new housing
 - Need parks – Cross Street and Victoria
 - Transit-Oriented Development near La Sierra Metrolink, like Orenco Station in Hillsboro, OR
 - Do something with vacant land across from Metrolink: park/mixed use



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Development on RCC property? Arizona School evacuation plan uses top of hill on RCC property, what happens if developed?
- Orange groves

NEIGHBORHOOD:
LA SIERRA HILLS

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Great area

Question 2: What is missing?

- Need cheaper homes
- Need more signals for schools
- Need more schools for housing
- Lake, hills

NEIGHBORHOOD:
LA SIERRA ACRES

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

No responses

Question 2: What is missing?

- No sidewalks on Norwood. Bad street conditions. Lack of code enforcement
- Bicycle paths and sidewalks; need to have access to shopping and mall without using a vehicle
- Need parks. Street median planters would be nice too.
- Upscale restaurants in general area
- Bad condition of City property: Norwood and Gramercy maintenance yard
- Work on idea of regional park overlooking Hidden Valley Wildlife area instead of 750 homes
- Dumpy, unkempt; needs code control and resident's cooperation

NEIGHBORHOOD:
**SYCAMORE
CANYON/CANYON
SPRINGS**

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- You are threatening the future use of March Field by allowing expansion in flight pattern

Question 2: What is missing?

- In the rush to develop, make sure wildlife corridors are preserved

NEIGHBORHOOD:
ARLINGTON SOUTH

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Harrison Street – paving looks good
- Close proximity to a variety of shopping
- Nurseries are o.k.
- Orange groves
- Good uses on Rocmer

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Question 2: What is missing?

- Streets are way overdue for paving; need parkway work
- More parks are needed
- Traffic is a real problem on Indiana/Tyler and 91 Freeway
- Glenbrook Street hasn't been repaved in 30 years; way overdue

NEIGHBORHOOD: ARLINGTON

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

No responses received

Question 2: What is missing?

- Small, family-owned stores with good service. These have been replaced by big boxes.
- Arlington area needs to complement the Arlington Community Plan building by building. Big box retail is undesirable. Magnolia Avenue, Arlington Village should have an antique row or other designated specialty areas.
- Need to clear paths that are safe for kids to walk to school, YMCA, etc.
- Critical rat control problem on Ramona and Arlington, we need to resume City rat programs



NEIGHBORHOOD: ARLINGTON HEIGHTS

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Don't destroy the few remaining orange groves
- Don't connect Overlook Parkway. This would create major traffic jams because the infrastructure is not available to handle the increase in traffic.
- We have lots of trees on Tropicana Drive
- Orange groves: stop destroying them; for nurseries use (already) open fields
- We in Arlington Heights area (Berkshire Hill Neighborhood Assoc.) want the greenbelt to stay green (that's what we voted for twice). We like the fact that nurseries are coming in. Better than more houses.

Question 2: What is missing?

- Put gas and sewer (utilities) in Arlington Heights
- Add areas for live-work community, e.g. artist colony, tech district, and urban activity zones
- Keep planting more trees for shade and looks
- Put Overlook Parkway through (3). Also could use one or two more streets going through
- 4-way stop sign at Grace and Dufferin
- No bus to Arlington Heights. Why does the bus only go to Lincoln?
- 40-60 foot wide streets in neighborhoods
- Open land to Madison and Monroe. Alleviate traffic from Alessandro

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

NEIGHBORHOOD: ARLANZA

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- 3rd and 4th generation Mexican-American families make this neighborhood unique
- The municipal airport: don't hem it in
- School/community garden is a step in the right direction

Question 2: What is missing?

- There are way too many dogs walked off leash and way too many strays
- Sidewalks (2)
- Bicycle paths
- Revisit rural zoning re: animals – fewer roosters, more horses
- Fix streets
- Code enforcement is badly needed
- Don't make it so difficult for people/senior citizens to borrow money to fix up their houses and improve the look of the street and neighborhood
- Law enforcement needed for red light violations on Van Buren and Arlington
- Safety is missing. I just moved here and I am sorry I did because of the crime and gang-related activity in my area.
- Stormdrains
- Vector control program
- Clean up the flood canal at the corner of Van Buren and Arlington. It's a health and safety hazard.

NEIGHBORHOOD: AIRPORT

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Protect the airport; stop encroachment; plan for the future

Question 2: What is missing?

- Finish the Riverbottom Bikeway between Van Buren and Tyler. There is a 4-mile stretch which is unpaved between sections on either side.
- Control harvest parking on Neil Street
- City needs a light-rail system
- Close up garages. People want to park on the streets
- Houses with garages in rear

NEIGHBORHOOD: DOWNTOWN

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Historic homes and architecture: protect and preserve
- The Glenwood-Gregory-Tequesquite side of Mount Rubidoux offers easy access to open space: Santa Ana River, trail to Mount Rubidoux, and Fairmont Park. Keep it open. Conserve and preserve before it is too late.
- Stop building cracker-box houses that cost \$300,000+ and pretending it fulfills some kind of housing need. Don't feed the greed or Riverside will become a wasteland.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Question 2: What is missing?

Due to the large volume of responses from this neighborhood, comments have been categorized.

Housing Issues

- More home ownership in single-family houses
- More affordable housing/apartments
- Mixed use housing, ownership rather than rentals (3)
- More professional housing
- Housing types in new Riverside Community is too boring – need a greater mix of architectural design and styles adjacent to each other. Also, move garage and entrance to home to a back alley and narrow streets to reduce high-speed through traffic.
- Protect and preserve historic homes and architecture. Provide incentive and assistance
- Mission Village should have included office space, less “family ” oriented – not all have kids and dogs
- Don't demolish older buildings, renovate. Make condos where there are shabby apartments now.

Open Space & Parks

- Open spaces – more green
- Please allow a lot of community input before developing the areas between Tequesquite and Palm and between the river and the bike path on the west side of Mount Rubidoux
- Fence around Fairmont Park
- Increase investment in Fairmont Park. Attract families, services, and restaurants; entry from freeway.

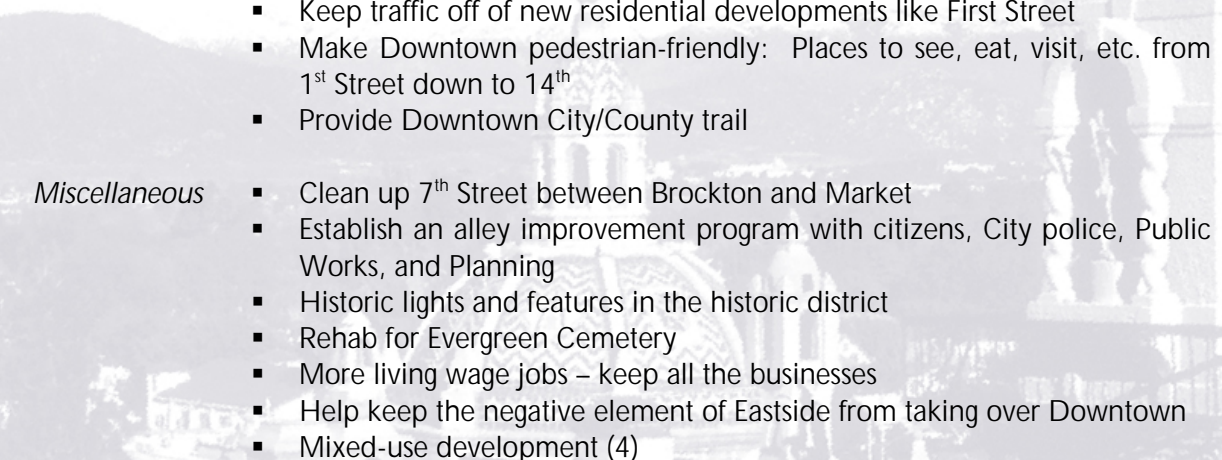
Parking

- Free parking: Why should I shop downtown when I can park for free anywhere else?
- It seems silly to prohibit parking on the same block more than once per day! This is akin to UCR's tight-wad practice of charging for parking at special events.
- I teach at UCR and already pay for parking there. Both parking policies are very citizen unfriendly.
- Increase free parking in Downtown from 2 to 3 hours.
- Take out parking meters from Downtown (2)

Entertainment

- Outdoor seating restaurants
- Need restrooms Downtown; Would like to walk, dine, even visit City Hall and be comfortable

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

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- Arts and culture*
- The art community would like to see low-cost “loft studios” in the old industrial area by the Metro Station. With this, a light rail or monorail from Metro to the Mission Inn Area. Visible from the freeway, these attractions would draw visitors to the end of the line from the greater L.A. area and put our town on the California Culture map. Riverside will be the place to go for day and evenings.
 - Encourage late-night dining, arts, and entertainment. Create an “everyone’s neighborhood approach.”
 - There are no after-school activities geared toward children or youth
 - Get Fox Theater going, would make a better arts school
 - Downtown Riverside until recently had affordable studio space for the artists. Artists are now driven out of the Downtown area. If Riverside wants tourists and shopping in a “cultural district,” something must be done.
- Urban Design*
- More trees and urban landscaping design
- Public Safety*
- More police
 - Stronger code enforcement
 - Crack down on slumlords
- Homeless*
- Implement homeless plans
 - Stop feeding homeless in Downtown and in the park (3)
 - Control panhandlers
 - Stop being homeless friendly
- Circulation*
- Transit-oriented development like Orenco Station in Hillsboro, Oregon; mixed-use, upscale
 - Move the bus station over to Metrolink
 - Fix the traffic. Orange is not an arterial street. Open up Lime Street: Need 2 lanes on 3rd. Mixed-use areas would benefit shopper who walks.
 - Keep traffic off of new residential developments like First Street
 - Make Downtown pedestrian-friendly: Places to see, eat, visit, etc. from 1st Street down to 14th
 - Provide Downtown City/County trail
- Miscellaneous*
- Clean up 7th Street between Brockton and Market
 - Establish an alley improvement program with citizens, City police, Public Works, and Planning
 - Historic lights and features in the historic district
 - Rehab for Evergreen Cemetery
 - More living wage jobs – keep all the businesses
 - Help keep the negative element of Eastside from taking over Downtown
 - Mixed-use development (4)

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

NEIGHBORHOOD: PRESIDENTIAL PARK

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Great job with cleaning up Indiana Avenue. Autumn Ridge is safer and beautiful.
- We are so pleased with the improvements along Indiana between Jackson and Monroe. So many different people coming together to build a beautiful community.

Question 2: What is missing?

- Madison is too narrow; lanes are not enough to move traffic. Train is a problem –causing back up traffic
- Continue/finish redevelopment on Indiana. These slums are appalling and a blight on our neighborhood.
- Do something about train crossing on Jackson; 2 schools nearby. Do something about train horns.
- Crime-free multi-housing complexes/communities are the best thing that could happen to Riverside.
- Street trees break up sidewalks

NEIGHBORHOOD: SYCAMORE CANYON PARK

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Don't build homes on ridgelines overlooking park and visible from public roads. Don't grade in or around arroyos (streams) and wetlands.
- Do not encroach on March ARB

Question 2: What is missing?

- Remodel old movie theater
- Put some type of recreation center other than gym
- Plant trees and make brush green along Canyon Crest and Century
- Add more teen type shops
- Gas stations open longer
- Canyon Crest is missing parks
- Create more trail systems linking nature parks and open spaces
- Create and save wildlife corridors
- Clean up Box Springs and Sycamore Canyon overpass; it's a mess.
- New apartments on Box Springs won't help

NEIGHBORHOOD: CASA BLANCA

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- The new library is a good thing

Question 2: What is missing?

- Need more code compliance (inspect, cite and care). Cars on front lawns, junk in yards, lawns are not mowed.
- Train should stop at Monroe
- Clean up Casa Blanca



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Concentrate some major efforts towards enhancing life style, expectations for this small and troublesome area in Riverside
- Implement activities which will enhance the lifestyle and decrease mischief
- Need to identify the particular trouble causing households within each neighborhood. By identifying the problem it will be easier to come to a solution.
- Connect Overlook Parkway (2)
- Casa Blanca needs a new name and a better reputation

NEIGHBORHOOD: WOOD STREETS

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Beautifully maintained yards
- Trees
- No growth
- The Wood streets are near perfect, well kept, no crime, and nice neighbors
- The facelift that is going on is helping

Question 2: What is missing?

- Too many people leave their ugly trash bins out in public view! Please do something about this: a public relations campaign to try to urge people to put them out of public view after their trash has been picked up!
- Code enforcement should stress the need to have residents keep trash cans out of sight from streets.
- How many more newcomers can Riverside sustain? Why can't we follow the Petaluma example? Water? Sewage? Schools?
- No matter what you try to do about traffic without less people (i.e. no growth), you will never lessen congestion or pollution without spending 100 trillion dollars
- Need to see more police on Olivewood and Panorama
- Historic beauty and human scale – better neighbors, less crime and a better City
- Area near the railroad tracks has unbelievable noise, pollution, and diesel fumes. How can we reduce freight trains?

NEIGHBORHOOD: MAGNOLIA CENTER

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Trees on Emerson and Cover are beautiful
- Magnolia Center is a great walkable neighborhood to live in and very convenient to all services
- Walking neighborhood to shops and restaurants

Question 2: What is missing?

- Code enforcement – illegal signs such as yard sales, lose weight, lost dog, etc.
- Finish Plaza
- Redo Merrill with nice shops and angle street parking on north side

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Starbucks at Brockton and Arlington
- No arterial for diesel trucks on Central and Alessandro
- Fix the streets, especially Central Avenue
- Need skateboard park, arcade, shopping, and other things for youth 10-18 to do at the Plaza
- Traffic calming from Palm to Arlington
- Need speed bumps on Granada and Palm to Magnolia
- Community center in park
- Redo Merrill between Riverside Avenue and Staples store. Require current land owners to keep property cleaned up
- Magnolia Center is not bicycle friendly
- Curb and gutter on Orchard from Washington to Hoover

NEIGHBORHOOD: HAWARDEN HILLS

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Protect Victoria Avenue
- Protect established neighborhoods and cease efforts to extend Overlook and Mockingbird Canyon
- Enforce Measures R and C: It's the law.
- Please comply with Measures R and C. Protect Victoria Avenue and our Green Belt. Stop uncontrolled growth.

Question 2: What is missing?

- Victoria without trash is attainable now
- Incorporate commitments and City Council resolutions to protect these areas into the General Plan
- Undergrounding wires on Victoria is a waste of money

NEIGHBORHOOD: VICTORIA

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- "Cowboy Streets" - this area needs historic district designation before newer owners remove their unique 1950s exteriors (Sun Gold Homes)
- Quiet big yards with lots of privacy (3)
- Homes are in walking distance to shopping areas
- Good schools at all levels
- Don't widen Central Avenue
- Unique historic homes; Lots of trees

Question 2: What is missing?

- The section of Victoria Avenue between Washington and Van Buren needs a good clean-up. There's trash and over grown trees around larger trees. It is not beautiful.
- Bring back/keep as many orange groves as possible (5)
- I think Victoria needs more orange trees to bring it back to like before.
- Orange groves need to stay and be added.
- Bring back orange groves; they are a true part of our history in Riverside and are continuing to disappear.
- More trees – fewer tract homes

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Safe streets – Would like to ride a bike up and down Victoria, but it is not considered safe. I hear lots of stories such as, people are beat up and robbed, bikes are stolen. There are many blind spots, lots of landscape on the side of houses (pretty is not as good as safe).
- Need parks and basketball courts in local communities (2)
- Victoria anywhere needs skate parks!
- More bike paths
- Bus kids to high school from surrounding neighborhoods. I understand that there are bus services for kids who live a certain distance from school. The Children who live within a 2-mile radius also can use a ride since it is too far to walk and parent need to drive them.
- Add more street lights
- Remove dead trees and add new ones
- A Town Center like the one at Canyon Crest
- Street maintenance
- Trim the trees and weed removal (2)
- Traffic is getting out of control especially around Poly and Gage
- Preserve the integrity of Victoria Avenue
- Remove wires from Victoria

NEIGHBORHOOD: HUNTER INDUSTRIAL PARK

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

No comments received

Question 2: What is missing?

- No more warehouses
- Good streetscaping and better landscaping
- Plant trees
- Encourage restaurants to save the area; still opportunities near Research Center

NEIGHBORHOOD: UNIVERSITY

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Great scenic views and so far, accessible trails
- People do not have to travel far to work
- No Metrolink station on Watkins Drive

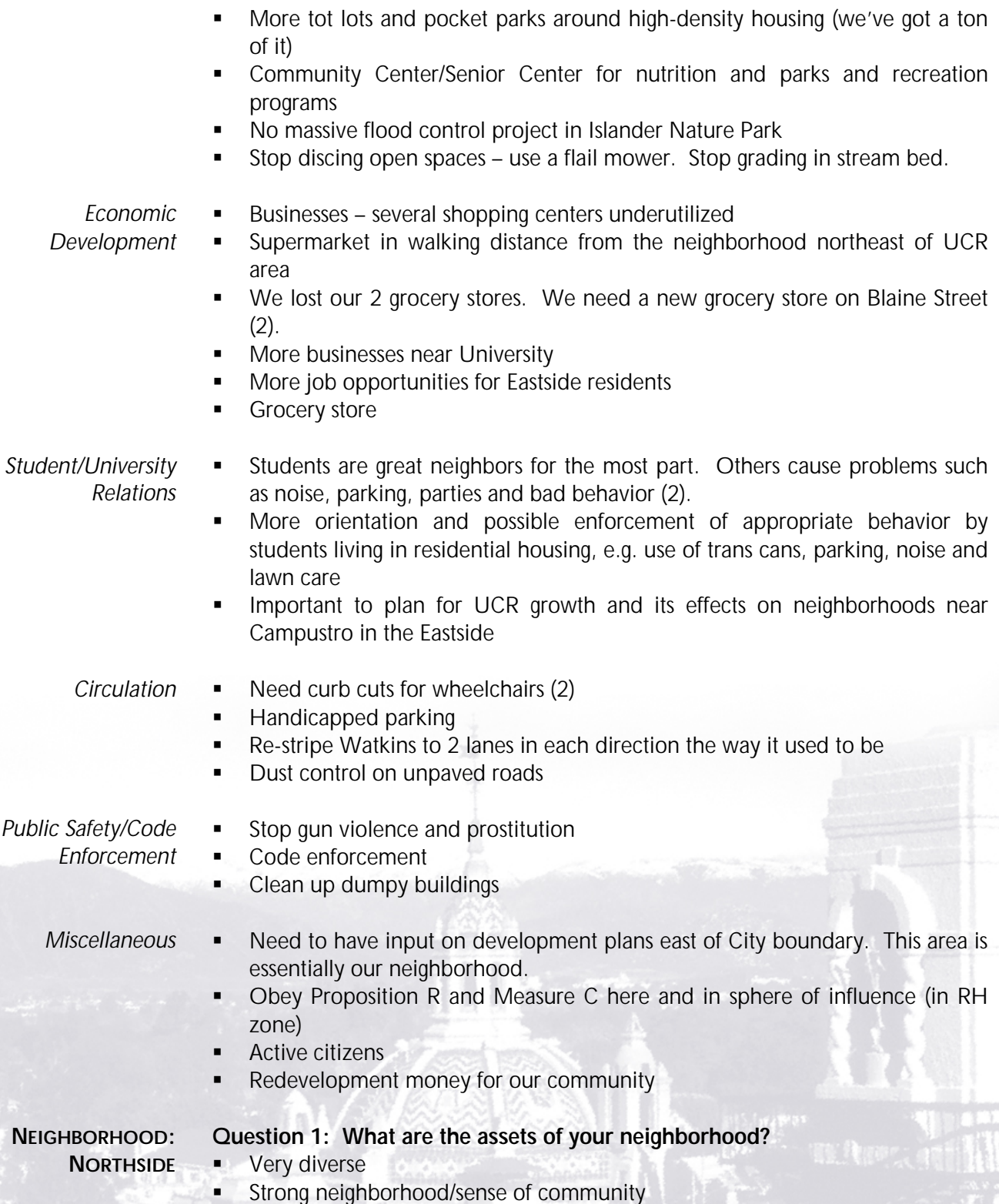
Question 2: What is missing?

Due to the large volume of responses from this neighborhood, comments have been categorized.

Public Facilities

- Parks
- Community center
- Library (5)
- A branch library and learning center on Iowa and Blaine to serve all of University, Eastside, Northside and Canyon Crest neighborhoods – already on bus line

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY



	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ More tot lots and pocket parks around high-density housing (we've got a ton of it)▪ Community Center/Senior Center for nutrition and parks and recreation programs▪ No massive flood control project in Islander Nature Park▪ Stop discing open spaces – use a flail mower. Stop grading in stream bed.
<i>Economic Development</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Businesses – several shopping centers underutilized▪ Supermarket in walking distance from the neighborhood northeast of UCR area▪ We lost our 2 grocery stores. We need a new grocery store on Blaine Street (2).▪ More businesses near University▪ More job opportunities for Eastside residents▪ Grocery store
<i>Student/University Relations</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Students are great neighbors for the most part. Others cause problems such as noise, parking, parties and bad behavior (2).▪ More orientation and possible enforcement of appropriate behavior by students living in residential housing, e.g. use of trans cans, parking, noise and lawn care▪ Important to plan for UCR growth and its effects on neighborhoods near Campustro in the Eastside
<i>Circulation</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Need curb cuts for wheelchairs (2)▪ Handicapped parking▪ Re-stripe Watkins to 2 lanes in each direction the way it used to be▪ Dust control on unpaved roads
<i>Public Safety/Code Enforcement</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Stop gun violence and prostitution▪ Code enforcement▪ Clean up dumpy buildings
<i>Miscellaneous</i>	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Need to have input on development plans east of City boundary. This area is essentially our neighborhood.▪ Obey Proposition R and Measure C here and in sphere of influence (in RH zone)▪ Active citizens▪ Redevelopment money for our community
NEIGHBORHOOD: NORTHSIDE	Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood? <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Very diverse▪ Strong neighborhood/sense of community

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Question 2: What is missing?

- Needs shopping
- Too much traffic on Orange Street past the school

NEIGHBORHOOD: MISSION GROVE

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Very little graffiti writing on walls
- I think what makes my community unique are all the families
- Keep March for military use only – no cargo (4)

Question 2: What is missing?

- Code enforcement – trash cans left in driveways, in front or on side of houses
- Affordable housing
- Parks (3)
- Sidewalks
- Quality restaurants (6)
- Bookstore
- Public transport to Downtown area (2)
- Shopping centers
- No more low-paying warehouse jobs
- Open space
- Recreation for youth

NEIGHBORHOOD: ALESSANDRO HEIGHTS

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Do not connect Overlook Parkway
- Don't connect Overlook Parkway! This only shifts traffic problems from one area to another. There is no infrastructure to handle the increased traffic: One lane streets, railroad crossings, limited access to 91 freeway.
- Do not connect Overlook Parkway; it will become a major thoroughway to the city.
- Connecting Overlook unfairly dumps traffic into established neighborhoods to accommodate new development and annexation. Don't place the burden of new development and traffic on 20, 30 40, and 50-year residents.
- Do not put Bradley Street through to Wood (2)
- Protect the arroyos (2)
- Our family neighborhoods

Question 2: What is missing?

Due to the large number of responses, comments have been categorized.

Circulation

- Connect Overlook Parkway (5)
- Open Overlook Parkway through to Canyon Crest
- 15-year mistake--connect Overlook Parkway! Open ends need connecting – alleviate traffic jams at Alessandro and Chicago – allow access east and west

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Arlington should not have any more lanes on it. Traffic should be dispersed so it is not all on 1 street. Put Overlook Parkway through. Also 1 or 2 more streets going through would help.
- Streets need speed bumps to calm traffic
- Enforce lower speed limits on Bradley Street
- Traffic speed on Alessandro is a big problem
- Safer streets

Public Facilities

- We need a local school (2)
- We need parks and trails and related connector to City trails (2)
- Need sidewalks. New and old development should include sidewalks for walking; no one should have to walk on the streets with cars (2).
- Need to replace City trees that are being cut down (2)
- We need parks and athletic fields
- Need to preserve and enhance open space – no connectivity between open space (2)
- Need trees

Miscellaneous

- Move-up yet family-oriented neighborhoods – 1/2 acre or larger lots

NEIGHBORHOOD: ORANGECREST

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- March AFB – keep as is, no cargo/passenger airport (3)
- Great community involvement
- Do not widen Alessandro
- Highly talented, diverse community
- The houses were all built within 15 years of each other, they all have same basic architecture.
- We have people concerned about their houses and keep them up

Question 2: What is missing?

Due to the large number of responses, comments have been categorized.

Public Facilities

- A wading pool would be great (2)
- Library – Orangecrest needs a library soon (4)
- Build the library at Orange Terrace Park soon!
- Senior citizens center
- Need swimming pools
- Finish Orange Terrace Park
- Another middle school
- Rewrite code on sidewalks – the light poles, street signs blocking access

Economic Development

- Upscale restaurants (Macaroni Grill/Mimi's) (9)
- Absolutely no more storage; more restaurants and less service stations
- Upscale shopping – no more strip malls (2)
- Good-paying high-end jobs; get us off the freeway

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Good jobs for all the highly educated and talented new residents
- Stop encroachment – too much development close to March ARB
- No more fast-food restaurants (2)

Circulation

- A Metrolink station
- Less traffic
- Timed signals on Alessandro

Miscellaneous

- Need entertainment and recreation trails
- Have trash trucks and street sweepers come after 7:00 a.m. not 5:50 a.m.
- Large trees in the newer neighborhoods

NEIGHBORHOOD: RAMONA

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- Quiet living - close to many things

Question 2: What is missing?

- Control the street parking on Sunday from Harvest Church (2)
- Redevelop Adams Plaza
- Clean up Adams Plaza as soon as possible
- Sadly needs more code compliance and stronger feeling of neighborhoods.

Miscellaneous Comments

- Press-Enterprise should quit picking on Ramona principals. Character assassination based on a few grippers is poor journalism.
- Shame on RUSD! Recall Kruckenberg. Reinstate the principal who has done an excellent job. Ramona is a great school.

NEIGHBORHOOD: CANYON CREST

Question 1: What are the assets of your neighborhood?

- The Town Center
- The Mountains
- Green area
- Clean
- Educated people live here
- Sycamore Canyon Park and golf course
- Canyon Crest has a variety of thing for everybody. It's clean and is a growing, thriving area with new concepts.

Question 2: What is missing?

Public Facilities

- Need for traditional park (like White Park) in Canyon Crest area
- A recreation center with games and courts
- Utilize surrounding mountains and fields for recreation
- More outlets for youth involvement

Circulation

- Put in electric vehicle and cart lanes for commuter traffic and trips to store from Canyon Crest to Downtown and University Center.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Pedestrian bridges and sidewalks on Chicago. Canyon Crest is cut in two by traffic. Intensive Alessandro Boulevard. Difficult to get through Chicago-Alessandro intersection as a pedestrian. One person already killed there.
- Put Orange trees on Sycamore Canyon and create shade
- Outsiders sometimes drive very fast
- Reduced speed limits on Alessandro and Chicago so Moreno Valley commuters use 60 Freeway instead of taking shortcut through our Family-oriented neighborhood. If slow go, it won't be a shortcut.



Economic Development

- Upgrade the old movies
- High-end dining
- Attract high-end developments – no warehouses
- Need big bookstore
- Upscale dining facilities
- Late-night dining
- Arts and crafts centers
- Gym membership too high
- Protect area around March Field; you are allowing too much encroachment.

Housing

- More executive homes
- Mixed-use condos
- Quit building those big ugly mansions (2)

Miscellaneous

- Outsiders throw cigarettes on streets, making them ugly

B. Visual Preference Survey

To gauge community opinion on several urban design issues, the General Plan team created a Visual Preference Survey. Participants were asked to compare sets of photos illustrating different design concepts, such as different densities, street widths, alley configurations, and fencing styles. Participants were asked to identify which design treatments they preferred on a scoring sheet. Tabulated results are presented below.



Visual Preference Survey Results

Choice Number	Preference Type	Tally	Preferred Choice?	Comments
1	Wide Street vs. Narrow Street			
	A. Wide Street	113	yes	
	B. Narrow Street	58		
2	Porches in Front vs. Garages in Front			C&D = Neither
	C. Houses with Porches	88	yes	D = Ban the disgusting front garage, and ban 3-car garages while you're at it.
	D. Houses with Prominent Garages	79		C&D = NO
				C&D = There needs to be a compromise between C & D.
				C&D = I don't like alleys, but like the idea of garages to rear.
				C&D = Neither
3	Curb vs. Property line sidewalks			F = Street trees break up sidewalks
	E. Curbside Sidewalk	15		F = Visually better but little thought to future size of trees - too close together.
	F. Property line sidewalks	155	yes	Fences are necessary in some location.
				E&F = set back house enough to landscape.
				Chose E, but houses should be back farther from street.
4	Urban shopping vs. Retail strip center			G = Yes, the fountain is a nice touch in an otherwise ugly and uninviting location with mostly chain eating establishments. Very unimaginative.
	G. Urban Shopping	163	yes	G&H = Need these spaces!!
	H. Retail Strip Center	6		
5	Commercial: Back-up treatment of building			I&J = NO
	I. Blank Back Wall	26		J looks better than I, but I is more convenient for daily use.
	J. Back Wall with Design Features	143	yes	J = Pedestrian friendly, bum discouraging.
				J = Too busy
6	Residential: Blank wall vs. articulation			L = Figure map to discourage bums to camp
	K. Blank Wall	2		
	L. Wall with Design Features	168	yes	
7	Treatment of Alleys			
	M. Traditional Alley	61		
	N. Alley with Design Features	94	yes	N = Clearly you prefer M but I think you're way off base here. I guess your idea is to feed the "separation" need of Southern Californians - eew, I don't want my garage to touch my neighbors!
				M&N = NO
				M&N = Both ugly

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Choice Number	Preference Type	Tally	Preferred Choice?	Comments
7 (cont'd)	Treatment of Alleys			M&N = Don't like either one.
8	Mixed use vs Commercial Stand-alone			O&P = NO
	O. Mixed Use Development	155	yes	O = Great.
	P. Traditional Commercial Development	16		
9	Higher density housing: For Sale Units			R, but no alleys.
	Q. Traditional Development	51		
	R. Development with Enhanced Design	119	yes	
10	Higher density housing: For Rental Units			
	S. Traditional Development	11		
	T. Development with Enhanced Design	157	yes	
11	Commercial Façade Treatment			U = Ugh! Stucco and river rock
	U. Retail Commercial Façade	138	yes	
	V. Retail Commercial Façade	31		
12	Fencing			W = No chainlink in front yards!
	W. Chain Link Fencing	31		W&X&Y = all ok.
	X. Wrought Iron Fencing	29		
	Y. No Fencing	119	yes	
General Comments				
You've really manipulated the outcome here. Nice propaganda job.				
I've checked the ones that are preferable, though neither may be desirable.				
Trees, trees, trees, are most important to me.				
Either/or is misleading (or very leading) choices are way more...				
It all looks good, why not picture what needs to be fixed.				
Just because design is more attractive, doesn't mean it is cost-effective! Just because I checked one over another does not mean there is not a place for all types. Depends on use and location.				

THE CROSSROADS: HOW WE LIVE

Participants made these additional comments regarding "How we live" at the Crossroads.

Land Use/Development

Development Quality

- We need smart, planned development that does not depend on driving everywhere.
- Single-family only Downtown (3)
- More Downtown mixed use properties: housing above commercial. Hopefully with ownership rather than rental options.
- Move senior housing especially detached single homes
- Small human scale development, please! Mixed-use is perfect!
- Shoddy new homes – better code enforcement and better inspections of projects. New homes have mold and other problems.
- Lack good architectural plan – plan on architectural style – houses with architectural garage put in the alley – cut down street size to encourage
- Community–village/condominium complex model
 - Multi-cultural, multi-income, multi-age groups
 - Affordable apartments
 - Location: First utilize cheapest, run down areas
- Multi-story, multi-unit living facilities
- Mixed-use housing e.g. Villagio
- Restore more historic building and revitalize business in downtown for late hours.
- Reuse of old buildings - keep the façade

Development Quantity

- Stop building houses in the City (2)
- Traffic increasingly impacts our lifestyles. Adding more traffic to residential neighborhoods is bad. Need better planning for traffic flow issues during development.
- We need more accessible affordable and decent housing

New Development & Infrastructure

- \$100.00 tax per year per household and business to add more police and equipment and fire department
- Developers should plan or contribute to services, not just build houses.
- The rest of City should not subsidize the people who bought or built in Orangecrest. Extra fee, water rates, phone, etc. should have to be disclosed to buyers.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Open Space Issues

- Keep Victoria Rim in Orange trees
- Save the Greenbelt – do not rezone
- Protect Victoria Avenue
- Open spaces
- Let's keep open spaces and linkages. Don't goof up our scenic hillsides and arroyos. Do respectful development and obey our ordinances.
- Arlington Heights Area – growth of surrounding areas (inside as well as outside of City). Less and less open space available. Loss of Citrus Heritage. Sprawl of single-family houses. Preserve open space for passive and active uses.
- Arlington Heights! Hawarden Hills – need parks in my neighborhood

Economic Development

- I am opposed to making March Air Base a commercial cargo port. March should remain a military facility. We already have the worst air pollution in the nation and rank fourth in the world. We shouldn't be working to attract more of this type of commercial business to our City based on pollution hazards alone. Everyone knows the ill effects of diesel trucks on roadways, pollution and health. Commercial cargo planes would only increase the hazards.
- High-paying jobs!
- Higher-paying jobs, courses to prepare people to handle these jobs
- I applaud the efforts for the revitalization of Downtown. The proposed townhomes and businesses will improve the economy in the area and help to revitalize the value of our historical buildings. This type of development provides people the option of living and working in their local community, rather than commuting to outside jobs and boost local economy.
- More bookstores Downtown
- The Orange Pavilion was once a very lucrative music "hot spot" for this area. Riverside needs to create a venue of its own similar to this old-time favorite.

Community Character

- Maintain a theme of orange trees throughout City
- Make real efforts to maintain the history and character of Riverside
- Branding ourselves in a unique way cultural center of the Inland Empire

Maintenance Issues

- Riverside is dirty! Steam the sidewalks and pick-up the litter.
- Let's keep trash barrels out of sight. We need an ordinance.
- Clean up the Eastside.
- Potholes, potholes, all over the City – spend the money on streets, not on consultants. Consult us, like today!
- Increased vector control for rats. We have a critical rat problem. This is a City responsibility, not homeowners!
- More fixing up is needed on the streets or Olivewood/Panorama – more trees, better lighting, etc.
- Replace aging trees cut down by the City
- Replace aging trees and trees that have been cut down

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Senior Citizens

- Multi-generational programs – youth and senior volunteer programs
- 35,000 Riverside seniors are overlooked; must be consider seniors; must have access to all services
- “Senior Citizen” friendly City
- More/better “senior” housing – larger than the usual 2 teeny rooms! When you’ve had a big house and yard it’s too hard to go that small!
- Retired people are not able to stay in the area because of lack of senior housing (senior housing that remains reasonable)

Infrastructure & Public Services

- Alternative/green energy (electric) information incentives rebates?
- Equal water (quality) for all
- Are you aware that we have gas pipelines running through the City? These lines were once known as Four Corners, then Arco, and is now known as Paragon Partners Ltd.
- Police substation in Arlington – library in Arlington – waiting for grant

Air Quality

- We live in the most pollution. Ban all school buses on diesel, the trucks, trains (freight and passenger). All transport on natural gas or electricity or solar cells. City bus rate \$0.25 per adult ticket and \$0.10 per senior ticket so they run at 100% capacity. Extend incentive for car pooling, Metrolink, and encourage cycling for pollution control.

Neighborhoods – General Comments

- Change boundaries of Arlington Heights neighborhood
- I am moving from Arlington area to Victoria area due to declining neighborhood! I love the Arlington area services, recreation, transportation is easy, everything accessible, other than the Van Buren nightmare. The historical aspects of Arlington Village are lovely, second only to Downtown. Like many parts of the City, many residential areas in Arlington suffer from blight. Our severely shorthanded code compliance needs to tackle these issues.

Circulation Comments posted at “How We Live”

- Do not widen Alessandro
- Should remodel Market Street from the 60 Freeway to Magnolia; look at the improvements of an area from a parent’s standpoint
- Bradley Street connection to JFK Boulevard

Other Comments at the Crossroads on “How We Live”

- Homes in my area are going for \$700,000. These homeowners will have to commute to make an income to cover their mortgages. We need companies in this area to cut back on commuting.
- Ugly green building on Van Buren and Magnolia – bright color, looks like an aquarium
- Do not make the planning mistakes of Orange County
- A lot of how we live is your own outlook on life. If you make the best of what you have, you can be happy. Or if you’re willing to work harder for more, you will.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

HOW WE GET AROUND

At this station, participants were asked two questions:

1. Where are the traffic "hot spots" in Riverside?
2. What are the barriers to wider use of public transit, bicycling, or walking?



Participants were invited to indicate their responses on large maps of the City. A third exhibit showed photos of several typical traffic-calming techniques. Participant comments on these were also recorded and are presented here. Finally, some participants made more general comments, also recorded here.

Question #1: Where are the traffic hotspots in Riverside?

Responses to this question are grouped by location (if a location was offered) or general theme.

Overlook Parkway

Pro-connecting

- Overlook Parkway should be finished from Washington to Alessandro
- Overlook needs to go through like planned. I love the idea of connecting it to Van Buren
- Open Overlook up to Canyon Crest – limited fire access in the area
- Widen Overlook
- Open up Overlook!! Opening up Canyon Crest was God sent
- Bradley resident (40 years): Overlook should be extended and Bradley should not be a major through street
- Don't have Bradley go through – Overlook is better
- Overlook Parkway was planned years ago for cross-town traffic, complete as planned. Bradley was agreed to not be expanded years ago with existing residents.
- Overlook should be connected to Madison; otherwise, Washington Street traffic will be overwhelming. Madison through Casa Blanca should be executed with care for community, honesty, and traffic slowing techniques
- Put Overlook through
- Overlook Parkway should be finished
- Bradley Street should not be considered as an alternate to the Overlook Parkway expansion. Do not expand or connect Bradley Street to Orangecrest/Alessandro

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Extend Overlook Parkway from Alessandro to Washington. Continue through open land to Monroe; establish an on/off ramp for 91 at Monroe. Extend Bradley through open land from Chicago Avenue to Van Buren Boulevard to relieve traffic on Washington and Van Buren.
- Connect Overlook both ends across the Arroyo

Against Connecting

- Don't connect Overlook. It would create major traffic jams on Washington and in Casa Blanca. This would only shift a problem from one area to another one. As a matter of fact it would make the situation worse! (One lane streets, railroad crossings, no freeway on ramp)
- Please do not open Overlook!!
- To connect the two parts of Overlook is very short-sighted. The ongoing overdevelopment of this City is shameful.
- No Overlook Parkway
- Widen Alessandro rather than connect Overlook
- Do not connect Overlook; service road only
- Annexation will unfairly impact established residential neighborhoods. Protect our established neighborhoods and discontinue efforts to extend streets like Overlook, in our most sensitive areas of the City.

Other Connections

- Connect Bradley to Adams for traffic to get to freeway
- Need to connect Madison and Overlook to eliminate very dangerous (blind) corner at Madison and Washington
- Cajalco to Orangecrest
- Do not put Bradley through!
- Reopen Lime Street at 3rd to 2 lanes each way. Stop the p.m. traffic jam. Local residents can't get to nearby store
- Make sure these new connectors bridge arroyos and wildlife corridors. Think ahead about trail connectors. Budget for large underpasses.
- Another westerly route out of City across river
- Make Cajalco Road a freeway or build a new freeway through Moreno Valley to Corona.

Alessandro Boulevard

- Do not widen Alessandro – increase bike lane
- Do not widen Alessandro; don't use City streets to shorten Moreno Valley commute
- Do not widen Alessandro; synchronize lights
- Too much traffic on Alessandro between 7:15- 8:00 a.m. on weekdays

Van Buren

- Van Buren needs to be widened from Arlington to the River
- Make Van Buren a freeway! Nothing else will solve it
- Van Buren towards the 91 Freeway - too much traffic - lights not green long enough to get traffic to freeway fast

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Van Buren is a disaster! What are you doing to improve Van Buren and Alessandro?
- Joint effort with City and County to widen Van Buren and put medians in etc.
- Improve Van Buren! Discourage cut-across traffic.
- Van Buren being widened south of 91? Housing is coming in.
- No widening of Van Buren, only to the freeway from Woodcrest.
- How about making Van Buren a freeway?

La Sierra

- Widen La Sierra 2 or 3 lanes in each direction by Lake Hills
- La Sierra between Magnolia and Victoria during rush hour and weekends is bad, but no 6-lane freeway, please!
- Improve traffic on La Sierra from Victoria to Magnolia!
- Need two lanes in both directions on La Sierra east from the 91 Freeway to El Sobrante. Too many houses being built and no infrastructure.

Magnolia

- Close Magnolia to through traffic. Use public trains and bikes.

Washington

- Washington should be two lanes, not one as it is now. People go too fast around curve at Dufferin for our neighborhood to get to Berkshire Hills
- Washington Boulevard – have consistent width between Van Buren and Victoria
- Pull Washington Street through open land from the rodeo location to Van Buren Boulevard to relieve traffic on Van Buren. Widen Roberts Road and connect with the streets in the area

Madison

- Too much traffic on Madison (residential); move to Adams
- Utility pay station will put too much traffic on Madison
- Consider railroad grade separation on Madison
- Madison Avenue: remove landscape obstructions or add Washington entrance to 91 Freeway
- Widen Madison
- Reduce speed limits on Madison between Victoria and Dufferin to 25 mph
- Finish Madison to Overlook Parkway
- Madison between Indiana and tracks need stop sign
- Madison between Indiana and tracks is too congested! Too much speeding – I live there and can never get out.

Dufferin/Greenbelt

- Corner of Dufferin and Washington is dangerous! Restripe Washington to create two southbound lanes, with use for right turns from Dufferin. A better solution would be to close Dufferin and connect Madison to Overlook.
- Buy existing site on Dufferin and Washington – causes dangerous blind spot
- Protect Greenbelt from heavy traffic
- Speed bumps on Dufferin Avenue
- Respect Proposition R and Measure C – no heavy traffic in Greenbelt

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Tyler*
- Better lane markings or signs on Tyler to know which lane goes where
 - Tyler needs to be widened from Well to Arlington
 - Coordinate the signals on Tyler Street at the 91 Freeway!
 - Terrible congestion on Tyler between 91 Freeway and railroad tracks. Used to be just on weekends, problem now exists every day.

- General Traffic Control Measures*
- Time the lights (3)
 - Time the light on thoroughfares
 - I hate speed bumps, think of other ways to slow down traffic
 - Radar cameras
 - Check signal timing at Palm and Magnolia – Palm has to wait too long
 - Traffic lights – wait at signals:
 - Van Buren/Garfield - 2 min. 3 sec
 - Van Buren/Philbin – long wait
 - Limonite/Peralta – cycles constantly
 - Limonite/Juan Bautista – cycles constantly
 - The signal at Van Buren/91 Freeway only takes 1 min. 45 sec. for everyone to get through.

- Roadway Design and Usage*
- Increase the number of scenic boulevards. Why only one? Victoria
 - Provide commerce trucking roads and lanes
 - Reversible lanes [on freeways]
 - Create toll roads to control traffic density
 - Designate “crosstown lanes” on major streets to avoid unnecessary lane changes
 - Consider more traffic circles in new areas

- Downtown Parking*
- Day permits for downtown parking
 - Day passes for carefree parking in City downtown (\$3.00-\$4.00). Layoff foot enforcers. Let visitors enjoy lunch and shopping without fines.
 - More free parking downtown
 - Need downtown parking for brief 15-20 minutes near City buildings

- Public Transportation*
- Public transportation!
 - Improve general mass transit movement through Riverside. Consider light rail expansion and bus service, including incentives for ridership
 - Public transportation
 - Bus lane
 - More park-n-ride lots for Metrolink Station

- Accessibility Issues*
- Curb cuts for handicapped – Mission Inn block
 - How can elderly get around if unable to drive?

- Train-related*
- Stop the train horns please! We are sleep deprived! Ridiculous!
 - Trains stop at Madison – traffic backs up – stop trains further back
 - No train whistles at night! Adams Street area

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- No more train whistles on Gratton Street
- Get rid of train crossings in a big hurry in Magnolia Center area
- Too many trains in Hunter Park area – need grade separations or reroute train tracks
- Stop train whistles on Adams Street
- Trains are too noisy and create traffic congestion
- Trains through Panoramas in the morning cause too much traffic backup!
- Increase train overpasses or limit number of trains during the day
- Have a train (BNSF) quiet zone like Placentia
- Please rid us of loud train horns! Cruel and sadistic conductors who love to lay on their horns. HELP! (Adams at the 91 Freeway)
- The train crossings are a real problem
- No more train whistles! Less trains.
- Enough is enough; no train whistles on Arlington Heights.
- Need a train overpass on Jackson Street – 2 schools within 100 feet.
- Railroad crossing at Magnolia should be first priority, not last as you showed in newspaper. Everyone uses Magnolia, but not everyone uses the other ones
- Railroad overpasses and underpasses (live Arlington Avenue) are needed on Magnolia and Riverside Avenues.
- Create more railroad overpasses
- Train over or underpass

School Related

- Central and Victoria are congested due to Poly High School – students and parents in the morning and afternoon
- Congested areas at Earhart Middle Schools – Aptos Street – cross street Van Buren and Trautwein
- Congestion at Central/Victoria causes Poly students to be late to school
- At Chemawa Middle School last year I witnessed 3 collisions at intersection at Overland and Magnolia. Need a turn signal at entrance to school and light at that intersection
- Hawthorne Elementary on Indiana and Jackson: train traffic and traffic on Indiana due to inadequate employee parking on campus. Employees park on street, and it's hard to see kids crossing the road.

Traffic Light/Control/ Signage Requests

- Put a light at Lake Knoll Parkway and La Sierra – Can't get out to go to work.
- Stop signs needed at 8911 Indiana to keep pedestrians safe at driveways.
- We need a light on Primrose and Van Buren.
- Put horse crossing signs on Jefferson at stops between Victoria and Dufferin



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Left turn lights at 7th and Lime south
- Speeding on Prince Albert Drive between Ottawa and Sedgewick – need speed bumps and signs
- A.M. left turn from Van Buren to 91 west has too long a wait to get to freeway, causing back up. Solution: lengthen the signal green time at the ramp entrance to allow longer flow.
- Lights at Trafalger and Alessandro and Keswick and Chicago
- Good idea to have stop sign at Dufferin and Grace
- Put signs on each end of Hawarden Drive between Mary and Overlook (i.e. “No Through Traffic” and “Local Traffic Only”)

Roadway Maintenance

- Paving bad at on/off ramps of freeways and many streets
- Please fix the City streets. They are in terrible condition with pot holes and crumbling pavement.

Miscellaneous and General Comments

- 91 Freeway – Van Buren – Arlington – Central – Indiana
- Too many speeders from RCC in Wood Streets, especially on Ramona Drive
- Don't let big money change the master plan, we need traffic relief.
- No growth! (2)
- Stop the insanity
- Box Springs overpass is a mess and getting worse with the new apartments currently under construction
- 91 Freeway!! Arlington Avenue – Van Buren
- Main artery streets must have lower speed limits
- Make it easier to get around by bike. Partner with Riverside Bike Club and market bike transportation
- Diesel trucks a major contributor to smog problem as well as lung problems in commuters. Diesel trucks should be dealt with as to their exhaust systems.
- On Merrell Avenue between Magnolia Avenue and Riverside Avenue, there have been nearly several accidents; it is real dangerous.
- Slow down the traffic and the development
- Possible solution – adding more lanes, more routes in/out of heavily populated areas
- Arlington traffic!
- People making left turns on opposite left turn lanes. (Example: Central at San Diego, turning into the Washington Mutual parking lot)
- Need BART
- Elderly should have to take a test to keep drivers license after a certain age.
- Trains! Noise! Safety! Traffic problems! Get going on this problem!
- Canyon Crest/Central congested – hard to get out of apartment complex
- Keep Moreno Valley traffic out of University neighborhood. Plan connector to 10 to east of Box Springs.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Use plexiglass as sound barriers on 91 from Magnolia past downtown – 2 miles of silence.
- Right lane only from freeway to Magnolia that leaves two lanes each way. It is too expensive to buy up property on Van Buren.
- Kansas Avenue and 14th Street – big rigs parking, making it a parking lot
- Keep more jobs in Riverside
- I see the San Bernardino Mountains maybe 2 months a year – will never get a handle on traffic without spending \$500 trillion

Question #2: What are the barriers in Riverside to getting around without an automobile?

Bus Related

- Smaller buses that travel more to areas more often
- Shelter and sitting areas for buses
- Bus system – the Metrolink line that was implemented recently was great.
- Continuation of accessible buses
- Bus seen as low status
- Need more flexibility with buses
- Bus transport before 6:00 a.m. after 10:00 p.m. – Senior Transport – Bike trails
- Tram line from UCR to Downtown
- Information on bus routes and times
- Few buses in Orangecrest area
- More direct routes
- Travel to Moreno Valley takes hours
- Buses aren't frequent enough and routes not as convenient as they could be.
- Sometimes the people on buses aren't the friendliest and so riding the bus is scary.
- Add commuter bus to Pomona from Riverside – more routes than currently – but great work on getting current routes.
- Too scared to ride RTA
- Bus system too slow/infrequent
- More buses that travel on time! More buses on routes and covered bus stops; heat kills seniors!
- Airport area – more frequent buses
- Bus stops/frequency needs to be increased; time lapse between buses too long
- Simplify bus schedules for seniors
- Bus stops are not people friendly. I pass women with babies and small kids sitting out in the hot sun waiting for buses – we need coverings.
- No local bus stop at Washington and Bradley – no sidewalks either
- I usually ride buses but they are not very safe in my opinion
- I chose not to ride the bus because I do not feel comfortable on them. For me, a teenage girl, it is not the smartest idea. There are often scary people on them.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Smaller buses to go more places and go there more frequently.
- Bus system should run later and more often
- Give me a tax credit and I'll ride the bus instead of drive
- Better, more convenient and more affordable mass transit system
- Bus cost too high; I walk to the store

Transportation – Land Use

- Being able to afford to live near where I work or being able to run my errands near home. Community mixed-use housing?
- More housing options downtown so I can walk to work, shopping, entertainment from home

Train Related

- Cost of Metrolink too expensive to get me to work. Bike to Metrolink then use train
- More park-n-ride lots near Metrolink station (Downtown and La Sierra)
- I use Metrolink daily to County but would like more frequent trips along with some sort of weekend service on Metrolink.
- It would be nice to have Metrolink for fast connection between different points within the City limits and other cities.
- Free shuttles should come back – off site parking with shuttles to destinations
- Shuttle from Orangecrest area to Metrolink direct
- Relocate freight trains outside Central Riverside, possibly to the Cajalco Corridor. Eliminate diesel pollution.
- Build overpass or underpass for all train crossings in Riverside
- The train system in the middle of the freeway is a cool idea
- Synchronize lights with train on Van Buren - no 4-way stopping - traffic backs up forever

Pedestrian Issues

- Lack of sidewalks
- Create safe, well-lit place to walk
- Lack of sidewalk and traffic noise makes walking difficult
- Long delay/waiting for crosswalks

Bicycle Related

- I love my bike but the roads are too narrow. We need better and safer bike access.
- Would like to ride bike to work, but the roads are too narrow and there are very few marked bike lanes (La Sierra - Lake Hills to Norco)
- Need more marketing of position of existing bike paths and trails. Many folks don't know where they are.
- Cars drive in bike lanes – More bike-only lanes
- We need more/safe bike lanes
- Need a totally separate bike lane network – no cars to injure bicyclists.
- Scared to ride bikes on the road because of safety
- Bike lane on Indiana and La Sierra (2)
- Traffic volume prevents bike travel

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Have access to trails for public at many locations so can use for both transportation and recreation. Avoid privatization of segments.
- Improve and expand bike trails along Santa Ana River
- Fix streets and sidewalks to remove tripping hazards and bike falls
- Central from Victoria to Magnolia too dangerous for bicycles
- Kansas to Chicago on MLK – needs a bike lane
- Because I didn't wait 16 years to ride my bike; nothing is close to where I live. My bike doesn't have a radio and doesn't go 80 mph.
- Bike lanes in Orangecrest – please, new area should have them
- More bike lanes throughout City – we need a map of bike lanes
- Bike too scary – have you tried it?
- More bike lanes and slower speed limits



Accessibility Issues

- Older people have difficulty walking!
- Curb cuts! Bike lanes, senior transportation – what happened to TSI?
- More use-friendly senior transportation, better attitudes from the dispatchers when setting appointments
- Disability – I have bus stop within a few blocks of my home but am not able to get to it We drive to every destination. We have moved closer to locations we use frequently.

Convenience Issues

- Travel to and from Moreno Valley can take up to 1 hour (12-15 miles).
- Won't/can't walk with multiple errands and carry stuff!
- Distance from public transit

General Safety Issues

- Downtown – lots of restaurants but not very safe so people drive
- More street lights on 7th Street /Cranford/University – unsafe after dark
- Fear of transit-safety “scam people”

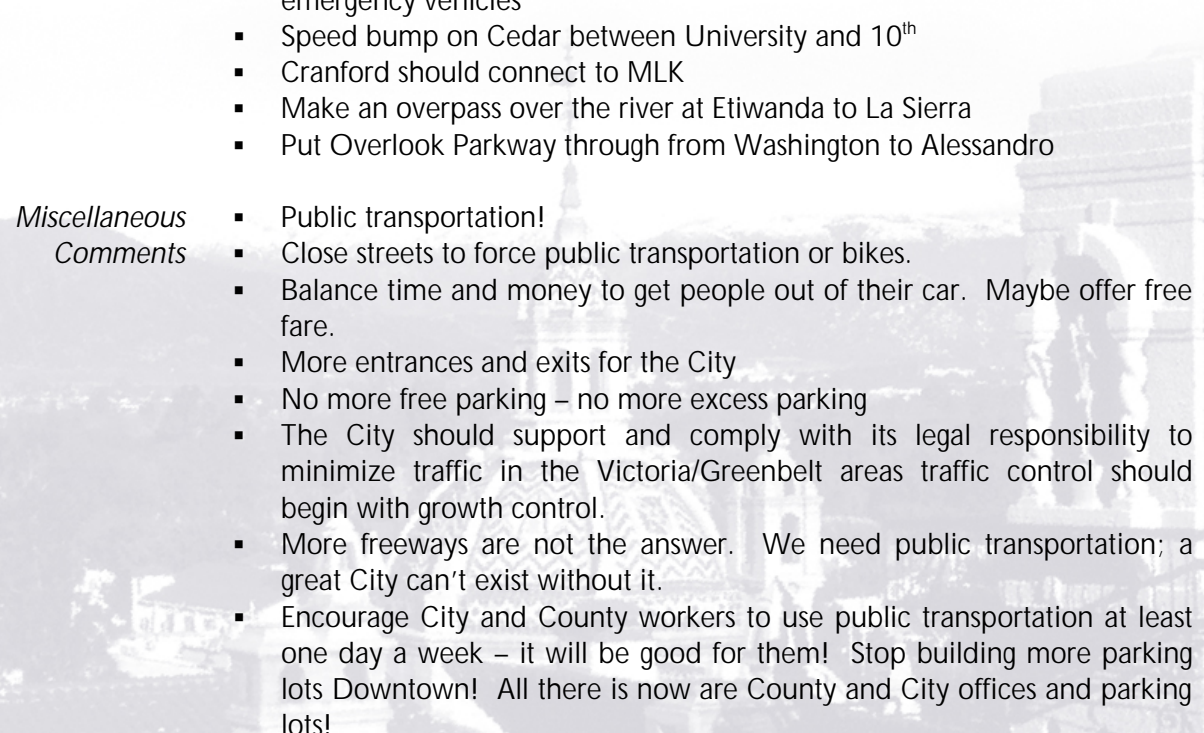
Student Related

- Better public transportation for students (UCR)
- Need grade separation for railroad crossing where children walk to school, especially when Metrolink expands.
- Pedestrian route on Van Buren for students to walk

Driver Behavior

- People cut down side streets to get around lights (Palm, Magnolia, and Grand area).
- Be aware that others are on the streets

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

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- Traffic is treacherous so I can see why parents might not want their young children to walk to school –drivers are bad!
 - Drivers cut off pedestrians at Market and University
- Alternative Transportation Modes*
- Segway friendly streets and policies
 - I would like to see more skateboard parks.
 - There are not buses, sidewalks, horse trails, or any other safe way to go to town from Bradley Street.
 - Run the trolleys as “Party Buses” between neighborhoods and Orange Blossom Festival, Wine & Bee Festivals, Arlington Chili Cook Off, and to downtown Friday and Saturday nights, to cut down on traffic, parking hassles, and DUI’s.
 - Make a golf cart path through City.
- Roadway Related*
- Stop closing streets; it’s bad to have all the traffic on just 2 or 3 streets. If you have a lot of streets open, no one has to have too much traffic.
 - Put Overlook through
 - Canyon Crest entry to Van Buren is a “T” connection. Need a guard rail on Van Buren to prevent driving from Canyon Crest to plunge into canyon nearby homes.
 - Cajalco needs to be 4-lane parkway only – no freeway!
 - Keep Alessandro and Van Buren 4 lanes.
 - Don’t widen Washington; we need more traffic control on Washington (stop signs and stop lights)
 - Dedicated right-turn lane needed at Arlington/Chicago/Alessandro for emergency vehicles
 - Speed bump on Cedar between University and 10th
 - Cranford should connect to MLK
 - Make an overpass over the river at Etiwanda to La Sierra
 - Put Overlook Parkway through from Washington to Alessandro
- Miscellaneous Comments*
- Public transportation!
 - Close streets to force public transportation or bikes.
 - Balance time and money to get people out of their car. Maybe offer free fare.
 - More entrances and exits for the City
 - No more free parking – no more excess parking
 - The City should support and comply with its legal responsibility to minimize traffic in the Victoria/Greenbelt areas traffic control should begin with growth control.
 - More freeways are not the answer. We need public transportation; a great City can’t exist without it.
 - Encourage City and County workers to use public transportation at least one day a week – it will be good for them! Stop building more parking lots Downtown! All there is now are County and City offices and parking lots!

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Why was the bridge crossing the 91 Freeway at Jackson Street not made 4 lanes? Jackson Street is 4 lanes at the railroad tracks by Arlington High School and 4 lanes at Magnolia. The section where it is not 4 lanes in at Sherman Indian High School. Almost nothing was in the way.
- How is the project to widen Van Buren from the 91 Freeway to Magnolia going? Plan it right. Do not make a crooked intersection at Magnolia and Van Buren. Have adequate turning lanes both/all directions to keep traffic flowing.
- How come the traffic lights in general all take longer than they did about 1-½ years ago? Specific examples are Van Buren at Garfield Street. It can take as long as 2-½ minutes to cross Van Buren. The Signal at Van Buren and the 91 Freeway is only 1:45 sec at its longest. I talked to Fran Dunajski and he told me it is due to the timing performance to keep traffic flowing on Van Buren. This still happens long after peak traffic hours. I do not think traffic flow is very good. While waiting at this light when it changes, it seems to change often when a group of cars are approaching the light.
- Why are you supposing citizens want to get out of their cars?

THE CROSSROADS: HOW WE GET AROUND

Participants made these additional comments regarding “How we get around” at the Crossroads.

91 Freeway

- The 91 Freeway needs to be widened. It is very congested. It appears Riverside has not prepared for growth. The 91 Freeway where it meets the 60 Freeway downtown is very dangerous; it should be redesigned.
- Find alternate routes to relieve congestion on the 91 and on Alessandro
- Reduce toll costs or eliminate them

Alessandro

- I am opposed to the widening of Alessandro Boulevard, as are my neighbors. We will be impacted by increased noise, pollution and traffic hazards create by making this residential neighborhood into what would essentially be a freeway. As an alternative, we would like to see the speed limit reduced to at least 45 mph to slow commuter traffic and reduce the number of accidents.
- Widening Alessandro Boulevard encourages traffic cutting through to the 91 Freeway to bypass the 215/60 freeways, which are better designed to handle this type of traffic.
- From Dorothy McFarlin – do not widen Alessandro nor remove the left-turn lane onto Cannon. Either or both of these items would diminish the quality of life in the Mission Grove neighborhood.
- There is too much traffic going up and down Alessandro and all that congestion makes me arrive late to school sometime.
- Do not widen Alessandro or Van Buren
- Keep Alessandro and Van Buren 4-lane parkways.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Van Buren*
- No widening of Van Buren only to freeway from Woodcrest.
 - Van Buren as a freeway

- Cajalco Corridor*
- Prohibit freeway expansion on Cajalco. Make it a parkway (like Magnolia) instead of freeway
 - Cajalco Road – make it a 4-lane parkway only – no freeway. Synchronize lights on parkways and arterials.
 - Get Cajalco going, put new freeway in from Mead Valley to Corona
 - We need a parkway with a center divider on Cajalco Road

- Public Transportation*
- Move Downtown bus station to Metrolink Station
 - New transportation hub at Metro Station – light rail from there to downtown, then south to Tyler along Magnolia
 - More frequent bust stops and more buses so that if they pass, maybe ever 30 minutes, not every hour
 - Need efficient transportation for all residents – especially those that can not drive (seniors, youth). Longer hours after 6:00 p.m. Regional transportation, local buses. Last train out of L.A. Union Station is at 6:30 p.m. That schedule is hard to make even if you work close by. Sometimes business is handled after work, over a cup of coffee. Our train schedule does not allow for that; therefore, you have to drive. It's torturous to sit in the train at Union Station and look out the window and see Dodger Stadium, up on the hill, all lit up and you can not go to the game because the 6:30 train is the last train home.
 - Move bus station to Metrolink area
 - We need better mass transit
 - Need bus services on Saturday and Sunday to the Riverside Market Place to the Metrolink, and more bus services on the weekends. Metrolink services on the 91 line (on weekend). RTA bus drivers are great.
 - More frequent bus stops
 - City bus transportation is confusing and time-consuming for those who don't drive. Metrolink from LA needs one more late train.
 - More light rail. Free, brightly painted bikes shared in logical areas (downtown, Magnolia Center, Arlington, UCR)
 - More free bikes; the last batch disappeared. Keep flooding the market and that will stop.
 - Starbucks on Metrolink trains
 - Move bus hub from downtown to Metrolink area
 - Move bus station to Metrolink site
 - We need a better transit system
 - City bus system should run 24 hours a day, at least from 7:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. At present, our transit system serves less than 1/3 of our population. It doesn't take care of children who can't drive and senior citizens who can no longer drive. They can't get to the local shopping centers or supermarkets because it's too far to walk.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Transportation Accessibility

- Some senior citizens need help in getting out of the house to the curb for dial-a-ride!
- We need more small buses that can stop for senior citizens. It takes 8-10 days for a ride.

Overlook/Bradley/ Other Connections

- Extend Bradley through open land via Chicago Avenue to Van Buren Blvd. Establish connection to Roberts Road and Wood Road
- Do not connect Overlook! There is no where for the traffic to go that it would generate! Why create another unsafe freeway like Van Buren?
- Extend Overlook from Alessandro to Washington – continue through open land to Monroe – establish an on/off ramp on Monroe in order to relieve traffic.
- Why don't residents of Bradley use Overlook Parkway as a through street? The new plan conflicts some neighborhoods in Overlook Parkway
- How will the new homes on Bradley Street affect traffic on the street itself? Will this street be made to go all the way through to JFK?
- Make the tough decisions. Extend the streets that are needed for the better of all of Riverside.
- Extend Washington through open land from Rodeo location to Van Buren
- Reopen Lime Street to First Street. Let the traffic and emergency vehicles get through without jamming up Orange Street.
- Beacon Way in Downtown should be one way – too narrow for 2-way traffic!

Roadway Design/Usage

- Eliminate curb-side sidewalks
- Areas without sidewalks need additional traffic-calming measures to protect children
- The community of Arlanza (92503) needs sidewalks and bicycle lanes for safe alternative transportation

Traffic control measures

- A lot of times people have to do dangerous maneuvers, mostly because things are confusing – keep things simple
- Keep trucks out of neighborhoods
- "Do Not Enter" signs don't always work
- Disrupt flow of traffic (hazardous) – barrier
- Do not block public streets to satisfy the few. Keep public streets open and passable to all. You are in the transport business, not the business of blocking streets. Controlling truck traffic in residential areas works!
- Enforce crosswalk ROWs!

Parking

- Get rid of parking meters. I don't pay to shop (2)
- Please consider the land down in Pine Center across from the old Alpha Beta, the old dairy. Use that land for a parking lot. Use the old trolleys and shuttle the people to RCC and to the court houses for jury duty. You could charge a monthly or daily fee. It would be more money for the City and reduce the downtown traffic.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY



Speed limits/speed bumps

- Speed bumps – 2851 Gratton
- Control excessive speed downhill on Alessandro approaching Arlington/Chicago intersection. Stop running red light
- Speed bumps needed on Granada (Magnolia Center)
- Enforce speed limits!
- Please re-think the speed limits on streets with residences, such as Palm and Alessandro. The City needs to slow down the traffic, regardless of one's need to get to work far away (a personal choice). Attitude adjustment!!
- Where are the police to enforce the traffic laws? The speeding and running lights are completely out of control.

Signalization-Signage-Lane Marking Requests

- Install a signal at Primrose and Van Buren.
- We need a 4-way stop or traffic signal at Wilding and Canyon Crest Drive to regulate outside traffic coming through our neighborhood. The safety of our residents should be the number 1 priority.
- Need a divider turn opening on Trautwein into the Mission Grove housing
- Arlington stop light – Parking on Mitchell at school
- Need better synchronization (Trautwein/Alessandro)

Maintenance Issues

- Potholes on Alessandro – could affect cars
- I mostly drive on Central Avenue, Magnolia Avenue, Ivy, and other major streets. I have a problem with the damaged streets (i.e. potholes). The pot holes severely decrease the condition of my car, also bad freeways.
- Fix potholes so they stay fixed
- Fix streets in La Sierra

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

General Traffic Volume Concerns

- Fix the potholes in the streets
- Landscape Van Buren and Alessandro – do not widen these streets
- Road improvements necessary on Arlington – Freeway to Magnolia
- City streets well established and very congested. Protect our immediate neighborhoods.
- Stop the jam on 3rd Street. Open Lime northbound at 3rd. Get heavy traffic off Orange Street.
- Zero growth is the only solution folks!
- Stop the growth! No more freeways!
- Please do not double-deck Highway 91 or build a tunnel through to Cleveland National Forest! Stop the insanity!
- Too much traffic on major streets such as Van Buren, Arlington, Alessandro, and Central. In order to get to some places in Riverside, people need to take these streets. More medium traffic streets set at 45 mph that provide an alternative to these major streets.
- Should we build a fence around the Inland Empire? I am seriously considering moving. I am a 3rd generation Riversider. One can see the San Bernardino Mountains maybe 3 months a year. This is an awful place to live. Too many people and too many cars going too fast. I love Riverside, my hometown, but the quality of life here is poor! If you double-deck the 91 or build a tunnel through the Cleveland National Forest, that will bring millions more people. What do you want, a megalopolis from Los Angeles to San Diego? I guess I must move because there is no end in sight to the congestion. You build it and they will come!! No more freeways.
- Close the borders! It's the only solution to this madness.
- Traffic – Van Buren/North Main/California

MISCELLANEOUS

- Put displays, traffic maps, on General Plan website.
- Homeless are humans too and need restrooms and need to be fed.
- I would like to see Jackson between Magnolia and the 91 widened
- Do not make Riverside and the Inland Empire a cargo hub at March Air Force Base! A cargo hub will bring warehouses, diesels, huge planes 24/7 to serve LA and Orange Counties.
- Diesels are damaging, toxic, and truck routes are being shoved down our throats
- Keep the parkway
- Landscaping on pods – trees smaller
- Officer Ben is the best!
- Copy of a petition was submitted regarding concern over the widening of Central Avenue from Alessandro Boulevard to Van Buren Boulevard

HOW WE PLAY

At this station, participants were asked to comment on the recently adopted Parks and Recreation Master Plan. Second, adult participants were asked to indicate what kinds and types of entertainment/nightlife were needed in Riverside.

After responding to these questions, participants were invited to mark on a map the additional places and types of recreational activities they would like to see in Riverside.

Question #1: What entertainment is missing for adults?

Cultural Facilities

- On Wednesday night, have a dance floor and community centers so those that dance, can!
- We need a concert hall in downtown Alessandro. We need more music!
- We need a Farrell's Good-Time Emporium.
- We need a senior citizen dance night in the Downtown on Wednesday nights.
- Riverside needs a major concert venue somewhere. We will never compete with other Southern California cities without one.
- We need concerts in Riverside. We need a venue for DJ's and bands to play besides a night club. Maybe use the old Riverside Plaza.
- A new museum!
- Create an Arts District with galleries in the Downtown
- We support the proposal for a new museum.
- The auditorium called various names was given by Frank Miller to Riverside as a soldier's memorial. That use and name are not to be found. Veterans Memorial Auditorium is a more suitable name than Performing Arts Center or Municipal Auditorium.
- Need a performing arts center
- We need a new municipal museum for top-quality traveling displays.
- Concerts in Riverside!

Dining/Shopping/ Nightlife

- More late night activities in Canyon Crest. The Towne Center is sleeping.
- Movie theater, restaurant and shops and La Sierra Riverwalk
- Need shopping areas in Arlington Heights
- Good restaurants in Downtown and Magnolia Center. This should be similar to Hospitality Lane in San Bernardino.
- Clean up existing restaurants
- We need nightclubs and/or comedy shows for the available for the over 40 crowd. Decent places with less emphasis on drinking. Maybe a Christian nightclub!
- We need a centralized dining/entertainment district. This should be preferably located in Downtown Riverside near Mission Inn.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- We need large, high-end restaurants (e.g. Macaroni Grill) in Riverside.
- Improve retail appearance along Magnolia in Magnolia Center. There is a popular Dairy Queen right now and not much else.
- UCR makes up 10% of Riverside's population, so there should be more activities for the students like night clubs, late dining, and more shopping.
- Tequesquite/Palm to Brockton/RCC corridor is a good area to develop a mini-park/shopping/classrooms for RCC and maybe senior housing

Question #2: Comments on the Parks and Recreation Master Plan

Note: Few responses actually addressed the Parks Master Plan

Fairmount Park

- Put a natural aquatics center at Fairmount Park.
- Clean-up Fairmount Park and make the lake bigger for swimmers
- There is too much red tape to put a canoe into Lake Evans – too overwhelming and discourages use.
- Baseball/softball diamond at Fairmount Park
- Put some funds into Fairmount Park to clean up and improve
- Give Fairmont Park back to the people
- We need "Orange Theme Boats" on Lake Evans
- Solicit funds from business to preserve Fairmont Park. Parks should be free to all.
- Fairmount Park is an irreplaceable resource. We have to restore it.
- Continue to refurbish Fairmount Park and restore the locomotive
- No fences around Fairmount Park
- Move the homeless from Fairmount Park
- Sweep up the debris and mulch from streets and roads through Fairmont Park
- Remove the homeless from parks in Fairmount

Santa Ana River Area

- Support the Santa Ana River conservancy legislation.
- We should develop the Santa Ana River as a recreation and open space area. Do not use for economical gains or for commercial development.
- Please support the Santa Ana conservancy. We really need to ensure that this area is a greenbelt for the future of Riverside.
- More work on the Santa Ana River. Clean up the water and conserve natural habitat.

Aquatic Facilities

- Public pools in low/moderate income areas
- Need an aquatics center
- Keep the public pools open until 7:00 pm. Right now they close at 4:45 p.m., so working people in the evening can't use it.
- None of the pools is open year-round. Not even on weekends.
- Don't allow a flood basin to be built behind Islander Pool

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Trails and Paths

- Be sure the new tract maps don't block the ability for these trails
- Connect bike trails with parks
- Bike trails and walking trails integrated into development
- Bike and hiking trails should share with equestrians
- Preserve and more existing bridle trails throughout Riverside. Stop building in open spaces.
- We need more bike paths
- Complete the bikeway between Tyler and Van Buren along River
- More bike trails with maps available to the public
- Finish the Santa Ana River Trail
- No bikes or motorized vehicles on Gage land – it is dangerous
- Gage Canal as trail
- Consider trail connection through City – Andalka toward Santa Ana River
- Need bike links to parks from housing and other parks – need developer to contribute to these as part of development approval
- Trail through Victoria CTC and Riverside Community College

Sports Facilities

- Golf course at Palm and Tequesquite
- Soccer fields at Madison/Lincoln in Casa Blanca. Take down the old radio station
- Our soccer fields need to be completely accessible to other soccer teams besides AYSO. Or build more soccer fields
- We need soccer practice fields
- Bondwell Park needs a gym for fun and fitness activities
- Par course at Rancho Loma Park
- We need a golf course community park
- Design basketball courts into the neighborhoods. There are many families with basketball fixtures parked on Melly Street where kids play in the street. I'm always afraid to run over them since their attitudes don't let them move out of the way until they feel like it. Many times drivers are forced to wait.

Joint Use of Facilities

- Use elementary schools as park and recreation areas for kids
- What about utilizing old railroad rights-of-way (tracks that are abandoned) as trails?
- YMCA joint-use facility
- More joint-use facilities

Other Recreational Facilities

- Use the Santa Ana Rivers as a multi-use area. Entertainment parks around the Santa Ana River
- We need a big public gym
- We need parking at Two Trees Canyon Trail so people can park more easily
- Hunter Business park needs improvements

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Libraries/ Community Facilities

- We need a new library in Arlington
- Marcy Library needs to be expanded
- We need a library in Orangecrest (3)
- We need community center and library in University
- When building fire stations make them multiple use facilities such as fire station, park, library branch, small theatre, etc.

After-School Activities

- Due to state budget cuts, we need to fund more library/cybrary after-school functions so kids have a place to go to after school
- We need facilities for kids to go to, such as a computer learning center for homework assistance

Greenbelt Areas

- No condensation of Props R and C land for park use
- Don't use parks as the wedge to breakdown R and C.
- No parks in Greenbelt – cheap land is not an excuse to breakdown R and C
- Observe Prop R and C and make sure our open space is protected from concentrated development
- Within the Greenbelt area we need a major sports complex, including an Olympic-size community pool, soccer fields and trails

Park Accessibility

- Please remember to assure that all trails are disabled friendly and accessible – particularly entrances and exits – with transportation pick up
- We need senior-friendly parks
- Designate areas to accommodate seniors and handicapped persons. Keep these areas safe for physically limited citizens.
- Stop trying to close parks such as Islander Park and Agricultural Park
- Provide transportation to parks that have sports facilities and community centers
- We need secure parking at Ninth Street of Mt. Rubidoux. We should move the gate back 100 yards and let people park on the strip.
- We should charge to use parks
- We need interpretive centers to draw citizens to parks
- Make parks more accessible – fewer fences

Park Financing/ Development/ Maintenance

- Businesses should invest in parks
- Be careful regarding landscape plans when talking to developers. We need parkland that is useable for the community, not just areas that look nice but can't be used.
- Use volunteers to build our parks
- Not only put more money into the parks system, encourage use of parks by a wider section of the community
- All new development should be paying for significant costs of new acquisition and park design/development

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Park-Specific Comments/ Questions

- Do not move Washington Park to corner of Victoria and Mary
- The Thundersky Orange Terrace area is great and nicely kept
- What is the status of Victoria/Cross Park?
- Protect Sycamore Canyon Park from lights

Requests for New Parks

- Bradley/Prenda areas have no parkland and are increasingly more densely populated
- Prenda area on Bradley street has been taken off the master plan for a park. Why?
- When is a park planned for the Victory/Gage area?
- Build a regional city park in Rancho La Sierra
- Consider Regional Park next to Hidden Valley wildlife area
- The Whitegate/Bradley area has many children. We need a local park to go to.
- At La Sierra we need to stop development and put in a park for families to picnic and kids to play sports

Social/ Safety Concerns

- Bryant Park has gang activity and crime going on almost every night and during the day. It is unsafe. Recommend lights in dark areas and sprinklers set to go off during this time (10-3 are worst hours). Also, because of sports, many people park (illegally) at the little entrance on Gramercy and Wohlstetter. Most neighbors have a don't look, don't tell attitude and just lock themselves inside. Many dogs off leash daily in the park
- Stop feeding the homeless in parks
- Implement homeless plan
- Crime free – children safe from crimes

Miscellaneous Comments

- Require orange trees as a part of any future development in Riverside (2)
- Provide community gardens for people that live in apartments
- We need more parks and fewer houses
- We need better communication on mobile recreation schedule
- Less fire stations, more parks
- More parking in RCC
- Promote tourism!
- We need spectator facilities for RUSD airport shows
- Weight of backpacks is too heavy for kids to walk to school
- Thanks for the dog parks
- We need door on restrooms in parks
- The gate around the roses works
- We need a palm tree patrol to remove palm trees that sprout along roads and sidewalks. Removing these palm trees near fire hydrants, light poles and traffic sights when they are larger becomes a large project. Remove these trees when they area small.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- The City needs to do more to promote its parks. Presently people promote or view the parks such as Fairmount or community pools as public spaces that should be used only for poor people.
- Ninth Street entry to Mt. Rubidoux needs ample, safe parking
- Need more organized sports that are not so expensive. I tried to get my daughter on a soccer team just for fun and exercise. On the first day of try outs, professional looking fully padded and dressed girls who we understand have been playing since the day they learned to run (it seems) showed up and monopolized the positions. New players have no chance even before they step on the field.

HOW WE PLAY: MAPPING ACTIVITY

At this station, participants were asked to place stickers representing different types of recreation and entertainment facilities, public and private, onto a map of Riverside. This activity was intended to gauge opinion on desired types and locations of new recreational and entertainment facilities. Responses to this mapping activity are grouped by neighborhood. Respondents are not necessarily from the indicated neighborhoods. The numbers in parenthesis indicate the number of "votes" for a particular activity or venue.

La Sierra Acres

- Outdoor Sports/Recreation (1)
- Late Night Dining (1)
- Movie Theater (2)

La Sierra

- Performing Arts/Live Theater (1)
- Shopping (1)
- Late Night Dining (4)
- Community Center (1)
- Fine Dining (1)
- More Upscale Restaurants (1)
- Movie Theater (2)
- Performing Arts/Live Theater (4)
- Nightclubs (1)
- Arts and Crafts (1)



Arlanza

- Public Pool (1)

Arlington

- Shopping (1)
- Sporting Events (1)

Arlington Heights

- Outdoor Sports/Recreation (3)
- Performing Arts/Live Theater (1)
- Shopping (1)

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Sporting Events (1)
- Arts and Crafts (1)
- Equestrian Trails (1)

- Arlington South*
 - Movie Theater (1)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (1)

- Airport*
 - Spectator Bleachers for Air Show (1)

- Ramona*
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (1)
 - Late Night Dining (3)

- Presidential Park*
 - Arts and Crafts (1)

- Grand*
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (4)
 - Arts and Crafts (1)

- Wood Streets*
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (1)
 - Indoor Fitness Activity (1)
 - Nightclubs (1)
 - Arts and Crafts (1)
 - Public Park (1)
 - Starbucks (1)
 - Barnes and Noble (1)

- Magnolia Center*
 - Movie Theater (7)
 - Indoor Fitness Activity (1)
 - Shopping (3)
 - Nightclubs (3)
 - Sporting Events
 - Arts and Crafts (2)
 - Late Night Dining (6)
 - Coffee House (1)

- Casa Blanca*
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (1)
 - Indoor Fitness Activity (1)
 - Shopping (1)

- Downtown*
 - Museum (5)
 - Movie Theater (1)
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (4)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (9)
 - Shopping (7)
 - Nightclubs (10)
 - Sporting Events
 - Arts and Crafts (7)



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Late Night Dining (12)
- More RCC Parking (1)
- Trails – Nature Area (1)

- Eastside*
- Movie Theater (1)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (1)
 - Nightclubs (1)
 - Arts and Crafts (1)
 - Late Night Dining (1)

- Victoria*
- Outdoor Sports/Recreation (4)
 - Indoor Fitness Activity (1)
 - Nightclubs (1)
 - Sporting Events (1)
 - Arts and Crafts (2)
 - Late Night Dining (1)

- Alessandro Heights*
- Outdoor Sports/Recreation (4)
 - Bike Trails (1)

- Hunter Industrial Park*
- Outdoor Sports/Recreation (1)

- University*
- Museum (2)
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (4)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (3)
 - Shopping (1)
 - Nightclubs (6)
 - Sporting Events (4)
 - Arts and Crafts (2)
 - Late Night Dining (4)
 - Park (1)
 - Community Center (1)
 - Food Store – supermarket (1)
 - UCR Basketball (1)



- Canyon Crest*
- Movie Theater (1)
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (2)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (1)
 - Nightclubs (2)
 - Arts and Crafts (2)
 - Late Night Dining (2)

- Sycamore Canyon Park*
- Outdoor Sports/Recreation (1)
 - Shopping (1)
 - Bike Trails (1)

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Mission Grove*
- Museum (1)
 - Movie Theater (1)
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation (4)
 - Indoor Fitness Activity (1)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (2)
 - Shopping (2)
 - Nightclubs (2)
 - Sporting Events (1)
 - Arts and Crafts (2)
 - Late Night Dining (3)
 - Good Restaurant (1)

- Orangecrest*
- Museum (1)
 - Outdoor Sports/Recreation(5)
 - Indoor Fitness Activity (1)
 - Performing Arts/Live Theater (2)
 - Sporting Events (1)
 - Late Night Dining (10)
 - Medical Facility (1)

- Sycamore
Canyon/Canyon
Springs*
- Shopping (2))
 - Nightclubs (1)
 - Late Night Dining (2)
 - Bike Trails (1)



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

THE CROSSROADS: HOW WE PLAY

Participants made these additional comments regarding "How We Play" at the Crossroads.

Dining/Shopping

- Upscale late night dining, good shopping and movie theater in Magnolia Center
- More outdoor eating in evenings
- Think romance! More evening destinations and more restaurants like Mario's & Bossa Nova Grill!
- Fine dining in La Sierra area
- Bring back businesses like Farrell's (ice cream parlor) – fun/crazy wholesome for families
- Shopping, restaurants late night eateries downtown
- Small scale retailers/restaurants in Casa Blanca, along Madison
- Mixed independent retail and big box shopping at Magnolia Center Movie theater
- Pottery Barn/Williams & Sonoma/TJ Maxx/Urban Outfitters
- Better and more restaurants! (California Pizza Kitchen, Buca di Beppo, Cheesecake Factory, Macaroni Grill) More upscale small restaurants featuring culturally diverse food.
- Shopping! (Fry's', Border Books, Super Crown Books, Sephora, Sur La Table, Restoration Hardware, Banana Republic, Z Gallery, Crate and Barrel, etc.)
- More quality businesses in the Mission Grove
- Arlington – better shopping at Magnolia and Van Buren
- Starbucks downtown
- Need restaurants (light meal) on Victoria and Harrison area.
- Need community small-infill shopping within walking distance
- Want to stay in Riverside to shop, but need more stores like in Orange County (If the stores were here we would shop here)
- More upscale dining throughout the City
- We need more top-quality restaurants – something to challenge Mario's
- More medium-priced good dining downtown
- More dining in La Sierra so we don't have to go to Corona or Ontario for upscale dining
- Arlington area: clean up and develop more shops restaurants, small businesses
- Move center in La Sierra by Tyler Mall
- Get quality shopping center at March Air Force Base if possible
- Improved shopping center on Magnolia – potential for Brockton Arcade
- Bill-paying center in Magnolia Center (for seniors)
- We need more fine dining restaurants; enough fast food

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Film*
- Need an independent film screening, whether new or existing
 - Movie theater in Arlington area
 - Movies in the park up in Canyon Crest area for the teen group (PG-13 movies)

- Nightlife & Entertainment*
- More night-time entertainment/opportunities in downtown – it is dead on Sunday night!
 - Music venues downtown or elsewhere in Riverside
 - Theaters (live) and night club in La Sierra near Metrolink Station
 - More under 21 clubs at Magnolia Center
 - Under 21 nightclub at Magnolia Center
 - Family-oriented entertainment
 - Concerts at Citrus Park – including classical and Broadway
 - Need more 21 and under night clubs
 - We need a more exciting night life. I don't get out of work until 10:00 and by the time I go somewhere everything is closed!
 - Semi-formal night clubs for teens (all ages) Friday or Saturday nights
 - Multi entertainment centers with arcades, movies (Gameworks, D&B's) stores like surf shops and snow board shops all in one place
 - More 21 and under night clubs at Mission Grove
 - Need more under-21 night clubs at Riverside
 - Under 21 club in Mission Grove on weekends (hang-out place for teens)
 - More late-night activity. Wednesday night market to last later?

- Cultural Facilities*
- Save the Fox!
 - Get Fox Theater going now
 - Build a new 100,000-square-foot museum for Riverside
 - Cooperate with the manager of the Fox to revitalize
 - Arts in Victoria Galleries, etc.
 - A Discovery Zone in Riverside for kids
 - Want a new updated museum! Orange Blossom Fest is too commercial.
 - City needs a first-rate performing arts center
 - Theaters/playhouse at Tyler Mall
 - Performing arts in Mission Grove area
 - Refurbish Fox theater downtown
 - Performing arts museums/cultural centers
 - Art theater
 - Entertainment and restaurants in Orangecrest

- DOWNTOWN
RIVERSIDE**
- Wants everything downtown!
 - Adaptive use of old buildings downtown mixed use
 - More activities downtown
 - Big open-air mall closer to downtown? More shopping variety
 - More late-night dining downtown!

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Sporting Facilities

- Golf course on Buchanan and Magnolia
- More sports facilities throughout the City for kids as schools will now charge for use of fields
- Need a good artificial running track for public access; UCR is no longer available
- There is an urgent need for more soccer fields
- Need more soccer fields
- A skate park up in Mission Grove somewhere
- The City is lacking playing fields. We need five times the amount of playing fields that currently exist.
- Add more basketball courts/parks in local communities please
- Indoor pool – joint venture with YMCA parks

Senior Facilities

- Senior center in Magnolia Center (coffee, play cards, talk, and gather)
- Organized day trips for people who don't travel freeways
- Senior dance night in downtown

Youth-Oriented Facilities

- After-school activities and programs for elementary and junior high kids downtown
- After-school program for children Downtown
- Build an after-school program for kids that will benefit their learning aspects
- More youth access to White Park
- More teen centers to shop and hang out
- More activities at Downtown Wednesday night for teens
- Ensure that re-build of Plaza on Central creates a good environment for teens to hang-out (movie theater/arcade)
- Santa Ana River turns into a place to hang out for teens

Santa Ana River

- Park areas hiking/nature trails near river
- Need parks on Santa Ana River

Trails and Paths

- More access to hiking and biking trails. Be sure to keep open spaces and trail connections. Trails can be for recreation and transportation.
- Hiking trails at Orangecrest
- Outdoor recreation and hiking trails in the hills
- Bike/hike trails near Whitegate
- Once Metrolink stop is in place, need a safe passage to Box Springs Trail

Park Financing

- Business sponsorship, "Adopt a Park"
- We should not have to pay now more for our utilities to subsidize Orangecrest

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Requests for Parks

- Arlington Heights (Hawarden Hills): We are in need of a park. There are many children in the surrounding areas. I have frequented Shamel Park, Castle View Park and a park in Orangecrest off of Van Buren. My neighbors and I have spoken often of the desire for a park in the Hawarden Hills areas.
- We need a park in Arlington Heights (Hawarden Hills area)
- Parks in Alessandro Heights
- Need more toddler parks and activities at Mission Grove
- Pools and basketball courts in Orangecrest
- Need play area for children at University and Brockton/14th and Brockton
- Need a large local park/botanical garden at Van Buren and Barton Street on southeast corner. Please!
- I am excited to be moving to the Victoria area of Riverside, but have noticed the absence of City parks
- Need parks in Alessandro Heights
- Small section on Olivewood and Panorama – why not make it a small meditation and sitting area for the residents that live on Olivewood and Panorama
- Outdoor sports adjacent to Citrus State Historical Park
- Consider a regional park overlooking the Hidden Valley Wildlife area. Obtain part/most of the Rancho La Sierra property for public use

Park-Specific Requests

- Need a community center at Miraleen Park (Mosley and Cook)
- Need more lighting and activities for children at Miraleen Park
- Improve Mount Vernon Park and other University Canyon Crest parks
- Need bumper-stops around Miraleen Park
- Clean up Fairmount Park – police presence is needed – get rid of bums and homeless
- Recreational activities and parks in Mission Grove

Spectator Sports

- Bring back minor league baseball in Riverside
- More sporting events – stadium?
- Our own football team

Miscellaneous Comments

- Clean the air
- Canyon Crest - don't change it – nice and small
- Pedestrian access from Metrolink Station to Park Sierra
- We need growth control
- Make government more open
- Market City overseas to large cities – line up tours of City (i.e. Europe)
- Better management of the Orange Blossom Festival!
- Open Aliso fields up to all soccer teams, especially since the schools are now charging to use their fields
- Walking places like in Boston. Metrolink and commuter buses are a great idea.
- Sycamore Canyon Park – Hidden Valley birding

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- The Arlington Magnolia area needs more love and care
- Living wage jobs!
- Expand animal shelter and change to “no kill”
- Protect Victoria Avenue at all costs!! Police on horseback at Fairmount Park and more public events

HOW WE WORK

At this station, participants were led to two maps. The first map was regional, spanning areas from downtown Los Angeles through northern San Diego County. Participants were asked place stickers on this map showing their workplace. Each sticker was color-coded by job classification/profession.

The second map was of the City of Riverside. At this map, participants were asked to place a second sticker indicating where within Riverside seemed to them to be a good place for their indicated profession. These responses are grouped by neighborhood, although it is important to note that this does not mean respondents were residents of the indicated neighborhood.

Where is your workplace and what kind of work do you do?

Los Angeles County

- Manufacturing (3)
- Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (2)
- Public administration, public or private education (1)

Orange County

- Manufacturing (4)
- Transportation or Communications (2)
- Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (7)
- Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (3)
- Public administration, public or private education (1)
- Service occupations (2)

San Bernardino County

- Manufacturing (3)
- Transportation or Communications (1)
- Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (3)
- Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (1)
- Public administration, public or private education (3)
- Service occupations (2)

Riverside County

- Manufacturing (1)
- Transportation or Communications (2)
- Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (13)
- Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (5)

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Public administration, public or private education (30)
- Service occupations (11)
- Other (7)

If you could work within the City of Riverside, what would you do and where?

- La Sierra Acres* ▪ Public administration, public or private education (1)
- La Sierra* ▪ Manufacturing (1)
 - Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (2)
 - Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (2)
- Arlanza* ▪ Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (1)
- Arlington* ▪ Public administration, public or private education (1)
- Airport* ▪ Manufacturing (5)
- Grand* ▪ Public administration, public or private education (1)
- Ramona* ▪ Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (3)
 - Public administration, public or private education (3)
- Presidential Park* ▪ Manufacturing (1)
 - Other (1)
- Downtown* ▪ Manufacturing (1)
 - Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (11)
 - Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (4)
 - Public administration, public or private education (10)
 - Service occupations (2)
- Magnolia Center* ▪ Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (3)
- Casa Blanca* ▪ Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (1)
 - Service occupations (1)
- Eastside* ▪ Manufacturing (2)
 - Public administration, public or private education (1)
 - Other (1)
- Victoria* ▪ Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (1)
- Hunter Industrial Park* ▪ Public administration, public or private education (1)

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- University*
 - Manufacturing (1)
 - Public administration, public or private education (3)
- Mission Grove*
 - Sales: retail sales, marketing, wholesale trades (1)
- Orangetown*
 - Finance, insurance, real estate, other professional services (1)
 - Public administration, public or private education (1)

THE CROSSROADS: HOW WE WORK

Participants made these additional comments regarding "How We Work" at the Crossroads.

- JOB-RELATED LAND USES**
 - More office space accessible to transportation corridors
 - Warehousing and Downtown Metrolink Station – artist colony
 - Encouraging more affordable housing (lofts etc.) in Downtown
- Downtown*
 - Would want to work Downtown, but parking is bad
 - All business activities are Downtown – need to work on west side of City. City not supporting areas for business – La Sierra area
 - I applaud the efforts for the revitalization of the Downtown. The proposed townhomes and businesses will improve the economy in the area and revitalize the value of historic buildings. This type of development provides people the option of living and working in their local community, rather than commuting to outside jobs and boosts the local economy.
 - More Class A (maybe with rehabilitated office buildings) on Market Street
- Airport and MARB*
 - Riverside should provide incentives to bring manufacturing near the airport
 - Make airport more user friendly to entice big companies
 - March Business Center – high-end industrial and commercial, high tech
 - I am opposed to making March Air Base a commercial cargo port. March should remain a military facility. Commercial cargo planes would only increase the hazards of air pollution, and traffic congestion. These types of jobs are also typically not high paying.
- La Sierra*
 - Commercial in La Sierra – service-related uses in La Sierra
 - More nice office buildings in La Sierra



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Orangetown*
- High tech commercial space Orangetown
 - Office space in Orangetown

- General Warehouse Uses*
- No more warehouses
 - Building up the warehousing and transportation sector in Riverside is incompatible to the health and welfare of its citizens. It is an uneconomic and unhealthful "solution" to problems created in LA and Orange Counties. Riverside encourages this by subsidizing its own destruction through economic "incentives" to the wrong sorts of enterprises.

- General Job Development*
- UCR is only opportunity for higher education and paying jobs
 - Hi-tech businesses – internet accessible
 - Living wage jobs
 - Bring more biotech into Riverside, especially with UCR nearby
 - No opportunities in Riverside for big companies
 - Do more to attract jobs here
 - Add more of a job base and increase types of jobs
 - City is improving the auto center, the look and amount of jobs here
 - Need to have more high-paying jobs – bring in from Orange County
 - More opportunities with people with degrees
 - Need higher-paying jobs in Riverside
 - Need more industrial, try to keep all industrial in one spot, attract jobs with incentive, great workers in Riverside but not enough jobs
 - More jobs here
 - More corporate headquarters than more sponsorship
 - Need more high-tech, clean industry for our highly educated population. (Accumulation of warehouse industry lowers quality of life)
 - I do like the small community atmosphere – no big businesses – I like mom-and-pop businesses
 - Bring in more high tech, but the City is doing a good job of bringing them in
 - Need more opportunities for artists
 - Great investors here but no jobs; get education here but take their skills elsewhere
 - City needs to attract more business and be business friendly
 - Encourage and develop small businesses – balance small businesses with large franchises
 - Attract jobs of true professional nature – maintain an income level on the upper scale
 - Give incentives to California businesses to relocate here
 - Need more industry to keep people here
 - More high paying jobs to accommodate talents of new residents from Orange County/Los Angeles County
 - More jobs so people don't have to commute so much. Like big businesses and more family owned businesses and small businesses

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Spend the money to attract high-end employers here! Get us off the freeways
- Bring higher pay jobs to town – make it easier to get to work
- I would like to see more resources spent to attract high-end businesses to Riverside to reduce the need for residents to commute outside the City. This would not only reduce traffic congestion and pollution on our streets and freeways, it would increase business revenue and consumer spending within the City but improve quality of life. Spend more money attracting businesses rather than building freeways that subsidize businesses in Orange County. They get revenue, and we get the pollution and traffic. We need businesses in Riverside such as in Orange County. Increase professional work in Riverside.
- We need to create jobs, instead of losing businesses especially in West Riverside, because of the freeway
- Encourage more businesses
- Spend more resources to attract high-end businesses to Riverside to reduce the need for residents to commute outside the City. This not only reduces traffic congestion and pollution on our streets and freeways, it would increase business revenue and consumer spending within the City, as well as improve the quality of life for residents.
- There are many job opportunities in Orange and LA counties. This type of business could easily be done in Riverside, and we should be doing more to attract businesses to relocate or open new offices here.
- Jobs will come to Riverside if we make it a better place to live

Traffic/Commuting

- Traffic from people using the freeway, making my commute to work from within Riverside difficult
- Commute to Riverside from Orange

Miscellaneous Comments

- Volunteer in the City
- All good jobs out of City
- House keeping in Riverside
- San Bernardino/Loma Linda must be on map!
- Need more police protection for schools
- Live 6 miles from work
- Would like to work out of house (sales)
- Don't want to work in Riverside
- Retired – had many jobs
- I work next to where I live – I don't want to change that
- How do we grow?
- People live here and work elsewhere. People grow up, go to college, then move. I frequently hear "can't wait to get out of Riverside."
- It's difficult trying to find employment around the City due to the population growth
- Looking for investors for a 21 and under night club
- Create incentive for supporting the concepts of "telecommuting" and "Electronic Cottages"

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- City needs to be user-friendly to businesses, utility breaks, tax breaks, AQMD too high!
- Some city jobs posted call for AA degree; equivalent job experience should be equal because some people that can read and take tests don't know how to apply for a job
- Use buildings that are built for industrial; utilize what is built

HOW WE LEARN

At this station, participants were asked the following questions:

1. *If your child attends local schools, what barriers exist that keep your child from walking to school?*
2. *What educational facilities would you like to access but have difficulty doing so?*
3. *For adults: what programs and learning opportunities would be helpful for you?'*

Question #1: Barriers to walking/bicycling to school

Safety and Traffic

- Parents are afraid of pedophiles in schools
- My child would have to walk by a dangerous neighborhood to go to school
- We need Block Parent programs
- Fear of attack. We need police presence at all schools before and after
- Too much crime
- Increasing rate of crime in Orangecrest/Mission Grove
- There are criminals and psychopaths
- Safety
- Bad guys (3)
- Poly High: My daughter gets driven to school because it's not safe for her to walk. Would like it if there was a City or school transportation available to her
- We need police presence
- We drop off our son, but I have noted that at many schools (Grant, Rivera, Earhart, North, etc.) the traffic patterns are horrendous. Many kids are riding without helmets, parents parking in front of fire zones, etc.
- Too much traffic—streets are overcrowded and unsafe
- We need sidewalks
- We need more parking spaces at Arizona because staff must park along Arizona Avenue, making it unsafe for students
- We need a crossing guard at Coyote Bush and Mesquite Canyon
- Van Buren needs safe sidewalks for King High school and Earhart
- Not enough crossing guards on stop lights
- We need more and safer bike lanes
- Traffic

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

Public Transit Availability

- Public transportation is weak for kids going to school

Distance

- No schools existing within the Bradley/Prenda area of Alessandro Heights; it's not possible to walk
- Too far (2)
- All schools need to be within walking distance (Alessandro Heights area)
- Need more schools in the Alessandro Heights area. They are building more homes off of Bradley and will need more schools
- Weight of the backpack is too heavy for kids to walk (2)

Other Responses

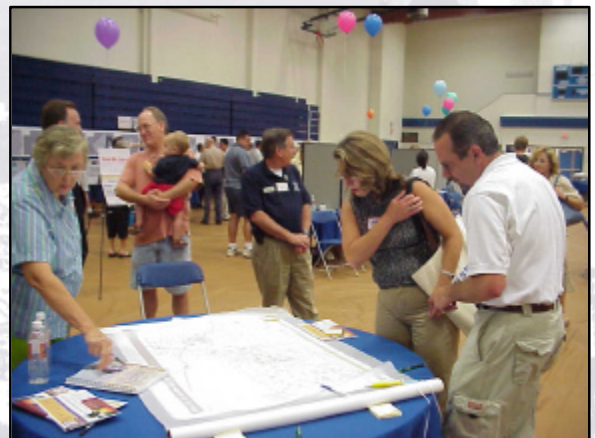
- School districts should be more involved in contingency plans for emergency power failures. We need traffic control.
- We may actually move to Riverside from the Pasadena school system, specifically for schools and family. We're third-generation Riversiders.
- Parking lot is too full at Poly, parents letting off students block traffic for other cars. We need a circulation plan there.
- Need more community libraries
- Affordable housing
- We need a tutoring centers
- Less testing!
- No tuition for schools in Riverside

Question #2: What educational facilities would you like to access but have difficulty doing so?

These responses seem to largely address transportation related barriers.

Riverside Community College

- RCC needs more parking (2)
- Buses stop running at 8:30 p.m., so I can't take night classes at RCC
- Parking lot is overcrowded at RCC—frustrated when you pay for a permit and cannot find any parking on campus
- Stop UCR and RCC from being "visitor hostile". There is no parking and/or charging for parking.
- Parking problem at RCC: no parking for visitors: they have only paid parking. RCC should have 0.5 to 1-hour free parking to encourage residents to stop by and inquire about classes
- The RCC passport to college is a good program! (2)



CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- UCR*
- More cooperation between City and UCR to encourage residents to participate in UCR cultural activities. Try to negotiate with UCR to drop parking fees for UCR cultural events. That is a barrier!
 - Want free parking in UCR

- Neighborhood Issues*
- Orangecrest: all elementary/middle schools are on the north side of Van Buren, the high school is on the south side of Van Buren. Too many cars need to go to the high school, not enough entrance and exit points in that area. (Wood Road needs to be wider).
 - Do not build Orangecrest library in Orange Terrace Park. Library should be in mainstream and accessible to all of southeast Riverside. Provident Bank: the 6-acre parcel is perfect

- Enrichment Programs*
- Discussion groups at Riverside Plaza
 - Would like some fund dance classes for teenagers, such as hip-hop or jazz
 - Tie seniors to college arts programs, like painting or ceramics, to enrich their lives

- Comments Outside the Scope of the General Plan*
- Organized sports that are not so expensive and monopolized
 - Limited space in local nursing school
 - Why can't the public have access to school fields on the weekends? Alcott in particular—there is not park close by
 - Want 2nd level computer classes
 - Spread new schools out; some new schools are too close to existing
 - Expansion or UCR, RCC, CBU, LSU programs in public schools
 - Access to local universities and programs by public
 - Make registration for adults at college easier by: 1) offering a wider range of subjects; 2) reduce costs; 3) hire more qualified teachers/trainers
 - Need sidewalks behind Madison School
 - Large developments of a certain size should be required to build the school or pay the full assessment at the first phase of development
 - Our neighborhood in the UCR area is the only one lacking a library!
 - Need places to let kids off at North High without using the street to stop
 - Need access to youth sports such as YMCA
 - I want an RCC satellite campus in La Sierra area
 - Need more technical schools in Riverside areas, mostly the Downtown. This school could offer courses in computers, business, etc.
 - New branch libraries
 - Expanded main library
 - Stop budget cuts for schools! Poly High School students have to pay \$100 to be in the orchestra because of the cuts
 - Need space in Orangecrest
 - More outdoor trips for adults—low cost and in-town activities
 - I would like to have an extension of San Bernardino State College courses in Riverside.
 - Need guaranteed spots in college

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Our local school (Highland) has begun charge our Neighborhood Association \$30 per night to meet there. As our neighborhood has no community center for public meetings, the City should pay for this.
- Sick classrooms (mold, formaldehyde, etc.) make learning impossible and may be killing teachers

Question #3: What programs and learning opportunities would be helpful for you?

Neighborhood Issues

- Establish weekend activities for kids in Orangecrest who don't participate in sports and also for teens
- City needs to help support AUSD's Community Garden in Arlanza – great educational resource
- Orangecrest needs satellite learning facilities
- Keep going on Downtown arts school
- Traffic patterns around and about schools are unsafe

Housing Related

- Bring student housing Downtown – get students involved Downtown

Arts and Cultural Programs

- Arts, crafts, and real classes at RCC for senior citizens
- Have cultural diversity program at each school each month. At the end of the year, have all groups at a festival to celebrate and share different cultures and diversity.
- Senior cultural and art programs in a one-stop facility centrally located near RCC and major bus routes
- Music and art in the public schools
- Grow music and arts programs in schools – protect them
- Promote multi-cultural events
- More arts in the schools
- Plan cultural events in the parks especially Fairmount (a beautiful and underutilized asset), especially for residents that do not currently use the parks

Comments Outside the Scope of the General Plan

- Encourage voting in high school
- A course on how to do taxes in high school
- Extension classes too expensive - \$300 for six weeks – extra fee for units – Possibilities: extension classes RCC
- Sidewalks lining Central Avenue on both sides
- Higher standards, higher standards!
- Teach all kids to read proficiently
- Keep culinary arts program at RCC – don't cut it, it's good for the economy. Get City support regarding job placement
- More online/telecourses offered at RCC
- More hours/days offered for core classes at RCC
- RCC needs an easier enrollment program – an easier way to find info on requirements

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Improve libraries – need more up to date materials
- We need uniforms for our children
- Don't lower standards so more kids pass – raise them so they really learn
- Certificate to develop professionally through extension program at local university
- Would like to see adult school teaching get more serious about what they offer as classes/subjects, subjects that will actually give people training so they can get a job, not just say that they go to school
- Utilize technology instead of text books
- Encourage learning music
- Promote healthy habits – eating right – no Coke machines in our schools
- Noticed some children are grown and still have speech impediments which are uncorrected
- Small business startup seminars
- More and better public library facilities – better collections
- Move the learning of foreign language(s) to elementary school from high school; the younger mind is more open to learning languages
- There should be education opportunities like PSAT classes, or tutoring with financial assistance for those who can't afford it
- Would like more charter schools
- Not as many students in classes
- Kids know more about Nintendo than their homework



THE CROSSROADS: HOW WE LEARN

Participants made these additional comments regarding “How We Learn” at the Crossroads.

*Community
Educational
Facilities (besides
schools)*

- We need Asian and Asian Islanders community center
- Need City hubs created
 - Tech centers
 - Artist colony
 - Entertainment zones
 - Recreation centers
 - Convenient shopping (mom and pop)

These should be the anchor and complemented by housing and recreation area – create live work opportunities

- We need a new, larger City library – visit Cerritos for an example

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- A new municipal museum – 150,000 square feet capable of hosting top-quality traveling exhibits
- Build a new museum with a learning area for children
- New facility for the museum – too much good stuff in storage
- We need more money invested in our libraries. They are key support to education.
- World-class museum and library
- New municipal museum with a large, creative, quality, children's interactive wing.
- Community-Village/Condominium Complex Model Please see 4-page proposal submitted to Mayor)
- Want a community gymnasium Villegas Park
- Better coordination between UCR, LSU, CBU, RCC, and the City – like a community education partners forum

School Facility Comments

- We need more schools to support all the new housing
- Drop-off zone away from school to spread traffic – walk from there
- We need a turning lane with an arrow in front of Chemawa Middle School. It is a dangerous corner.
- Hawthorne Elementary needs more parking for their workers. We park in the street and that's dangerous for us!
- More parking for Magnolia Elementary School. Teachers are forced to park in red.

Public Safety Concerns

- Crime is my major concern. This needs to be a safer place to live, play, and work!
- Safety for our children from predators

Miscellaneous/ Outside Scope of General Plan (but useful for RUSD, AUSD)

- High school students take too many tests
- New housing or redeveloped area
- High school students take too many State/District tests!!
- More free training programs for adults
- Too much is spent on District testing. Takes money away from teachers' salaries, lowers number of teachers, and increases class size. Use less on tests and more on education.
- Our universities and recreation are the jewels of our City. Help them anyway we can. Don't try to duplicate services they offer – partner and use them!
- By listening to the people that elect you (council members) and not turning around and stabbing us (voters) in the back; no more building
- Respect growth control laws Proposition R and Measure C
- Too many test in schools – emphasize learning and thirst for knowledge
- Want more after-school programs like tutoring/interact
- More opportunities for underage learners at RCC, less hassle. It's not our fault our home-schooled 11-year-olds are more academically prepared than most 1st-year community college students

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Emphasis on the arts (performance, music, visual, etc.) in the schools will facilitate teaching/learning.
- We're all Americans here and this is an "All-American City"
- School classrooms without mold and formaldehyde. Especially since children and teachers suffer the way it is
- High school students take too many standardized tests which they don't take seriously. They view them as a waste of time.
- Respect Props. R and C in Rancho La Sierra
- Let teachers make more decisions regarding what to teach. Teachers know their students better than administrators
- Too many tests for high school students
- Sophisticated art programs, including commercial art
- Want a Par 3 course at park next to Christa McAuliffe Elementary School and community garden
- Want more classrooms at high school
- Need more programs for infants and toddlers
- Worry about access to RCC because of budget cuts
- More night classes for adults
- Want UCR to have more of a presence in the community, more involved.
- UCR pays only lip service to the City parking at evening events; ban the pay
- Want a high school program for step dance
- Why are there fees for using school fields? Why are they by the year rather than monthly? Shouldn't they be provided to keep kids off streets?
- Many school administrators are unaware that Title I funds may be used for music because the No Child Left Behind Act includes music as a core subject
- Drug rehabilitation – not jail
- De-criminalize all drugs
- Free medical drugs for all
- We need new Asian city

THE CROSSROADS: GENERAL COMMENTS

In addition to the five stations related to the Visioning Riverside themes, participants were invited to make general comments at the Crossroads. Most of these general comments actually correspond to one of the five major themes. Comments were thus sorted into several categories, including the five major themes, plus neighborhood-specific comments, issues related to Proposition R and Measure C, comments on the Citizens' Congress itself, maintenance requests, and other miscellaneous comments.

How We Live

- More community uses at Raincross
- More hospitals in Riverside
- Affordable housing

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Universal free health care
- Senior citizens center for all neighborhoods!
- More community centers
- Need more recycling programs! Stress/teach environmentally friendly ways of living.
- More student housing is needed at Cal Baptist University

How We Work

- Living wage jobs
- Rebuild/renew the outdated buildings along Brockton between Central and Arlington (i.e. Brookton Arcade)
- Get clean industry jobs here so less commuting to Orange County, Los Angeles, and San Diego. Improve, maintain scenic nature of Riverside and don't fill in with solid sprawl or they just won't come.
- Regarding economic development – I believe that economic development should not displace or cause any cost whatsoever to existing businesses. On Merrill, America's tire and the business next door to it, Plaza Smog and Auto, should be left as they are. Plaza Smog and Auto is reasonably priced and the owner is honest and will not do work that is not needed. This man, Felix, should not be required to more nor should he be caused to have to have to spend any money. That would cause him not to be able to charge the reasonable prices that he does now. His business is excellent for low-income and middle-income Riversiders. Felix does not need to advertise; word of mouth provides his business. My husband has told me that if any economic development costs are put on Felix, he will move his business to Phelan – a great loss to Riverside.
- No more warehouses
- Bad businesses on each side of Madison. What help did the street improvements provide if the businesses are the same?
- Keep jobs in Riverside.

How We Get Around

- Need alternative fuels! We are using non-renewable fossil fuels unsustainable. We will be out of oil in 40-80 years! Something needs to be done, and fast.
- Public transportation
- Solar energy! We could use solar panels as shade for parking.
- Arlington off-ramp needs right-turn lane only. Everyone who wants to turn left piles in. There should be more lanes – there is a lot of room for it.
- We are residents of Bradley Street and are aware of future growth at the end of our street. Please use Overlook Parkway as a thoroughfare as it was designed, instead of shifting traffic up Bradley and somehow connecting up to Van Buren.

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- I am directly opposed to the widening of Alessandro Boulevard. We would be directly impacted by increased noise, pollution and traffic hazards created by making this primarily residential area into would become a freeway. As an alternative, we would like to see the speed limit reduced to at least 45 mph (currently imposed on Central, Chicago, and Arlington Avenues) to slow traffic.
- Widening Alessandro Blvd. only encourage additional traffic cutting through to the 91 freeway to bypass the 215/60 freeways, which are better designed to handle this type of traffic. We also need a 4-way stop system or traffic signal at Wilding and Canyon Crest Drive to regulate the outside traffic coming through our neighborhood.
- Keep infrastructure in the City of Riverside. Need more land acquisition for transportation/highways/roadways. What will Riverside do in an emergency? No outlets. Should build additional freeway, use Santa Ana River. Utilize existing concrete. Provide 4-lane minimum with 4:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m., no trucking access. Should do the same for the 91 freeway.

How We Learn

- We need Asian youth center
- Please remember that other areas besides Downtown need cultural/educational development and services

How We Play

- More badminton facilities in Riverside
- There is an opportunity to tie in some equestrian themed parks by Riverside Rancheros, because before we know it, we will be chasing the horses out too.
- Having some open space with parks and places people can come to enjoy makes for healthier and friendlier residents. Allowing a developer to designate a small piece of land as open space or future park is not really planning at all.
- Riverside needs to partner with private institutions to make Riverside the cultural mecca that it should be.
 - UCR has many programs, events, lecture series, open to the public that the City should be advertising/supporting. History Department of UCR has lecture series
 - UCR has new theater building that could be used for community events.
 - Partner with UCR Dance Department for performances at the lawn of the Central Library
 - Other events could occur at this venue.
 - Film festivals at the Fox Theater
 - Look to other cities that provide/support/promote activities, i.e. Palm Springs, Pasadena, Laguna Beach
 - Assist to renovate the Fox Theater into an art-house movie theater

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Other forms of arts and culture, chamber music and singing, at cultural/institutional venues, such as churches
- Support, support, support the Arts in Riverside!!

Specific Neighborhood Issues

- I live in Arlington, but problems with Eastside, due its UCR residents, and Casa Blanca area affect the perception of the whole of Riverside City. These above areas should be rehabilitated/cleaned.
- We need a library and police substation in Arlington.
- We need more police officers in Arlington and need to know who the police officer is
- Poor planning at Adams and Magnolia – should not have commercial retail Magnolia and Adams not compatible to surrounding land uses.
- Major public safety need in Casa Blanca. Why provide bad land uses like martial arts facilities? Will increase the violence

R & C

- Support Proposition R and Measure C
- Quit hiring lawyers to find loopholes in Props R and C
- Keep orange trees on Victoria (2)
- Keep orange trees! No more houses!
- Preserve our Greenbelt. What are we going to leave our children for historic value?
- We are losing our citrus heritage, only to be replaced by nurseries.

General Comments About The Citizens' Congress

- It's great that you really want to listen to what the common folks have to say. I just hope you are able to apply some of it. I've read a lot of the slips and some have great ideas.
- This has been an A-1 super experience! Thank you City of Riverside for the opportunity.
- I didn't get my free bag and I came alone, not in a party
- Thank you for this effort to get citizen input!
- Was this place on Saturday bus routes? No healthy or vegetarian food. No direction to R.R. - Not told where to leave, had to wander around and refuse exit!
- Just finished speaking with all the booths and the two city planners'. Just to say how I really enjoyed this forum for information gathering! Good idea!
- Thank you for having an event of this sort and offering residents the opportunity to comment on growth. Please protect the livability of our City.
- Great venue for communication. Should have events like this more often
- These visions or plans are valiant efforts, but they are just a waste of time if we don't follow them for whatever reasons (ie. Change of Council members).

Maintenance Requests

- Streets are in need of repair around the whole City
- Clean up University from Downtown to UCR
- Fix the streets! (potholes, correctly repave the streets after underground and road work)

CITIZENS' CONGRESS SUMMARY

- Fix the freeways! Repave on/off ramps
- Reinstate the City Rat Abatement Program – bring the program back to begin to address the increasing rat problem throughout the City!!

Other Comments

- Get rid of A.C.S. in City information services. Open opportunities to local business for software development.
- I love to live and work in Riverside now
- Stop the insanity!
- Overwhelming conditions on new projects
- City jail (2)
- Zero growth is the only solution, folks. I love Riverside, my hometown, but I would move if I could.
- Not a bedroom community. No more commuting. No annexations. Repeal Patriot Act, restore the Bill of Rights! – No U.S. imperialism, bring troops home from Iraq. Keep our taxes here!
- Close the borders! It's the only solution to this madness
- Growth is the only answer
- We are at cross purposes in that we are a university town and will always have a high rental/owner situation

